

JUMP COMICS

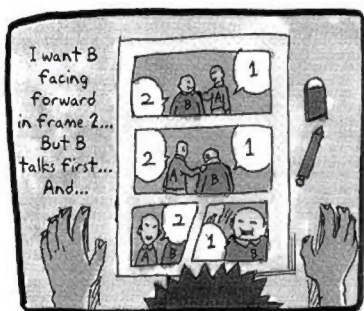


巻ノ二十

ナルトVSサスケ!!

NARUTO
-ナルト-

岸 本 斉 史



岸本 齊史

I've recently been feeling the limits of expression in manga. With manga's particular style of reading from top right to bottom left, the order of dialogue severely limits the angle of the camera... Isn't there another way...?

—Masashi Kishimoto, 2003

Author/artist Masashi Kishimoto was born in 1974 in rural Okayama Prefecture, Japan. After spending time in art college, he won the Hop Step Award for new manga artists with his manga **Karakuri** (Mechanism). Kishimoto decided to base his next story on traditional Japanese culture. His first version of **Naruto**, drawn in 1997, was a one-shot story about fox spirits; his final version, which debuted in **Weekly Shonen Jump** in 1999, quickly became the most popular ninja manga in Japan.



JUMP COMICS 

NARUTO

—ナルト—

巻
二
十

ナルト バーサス サスケ!!

きし もと まさ
岸 本 斉 史

おも **主** な とう **登** じょう **場** じん **人** ぶつ **物**

うちは
サスケ

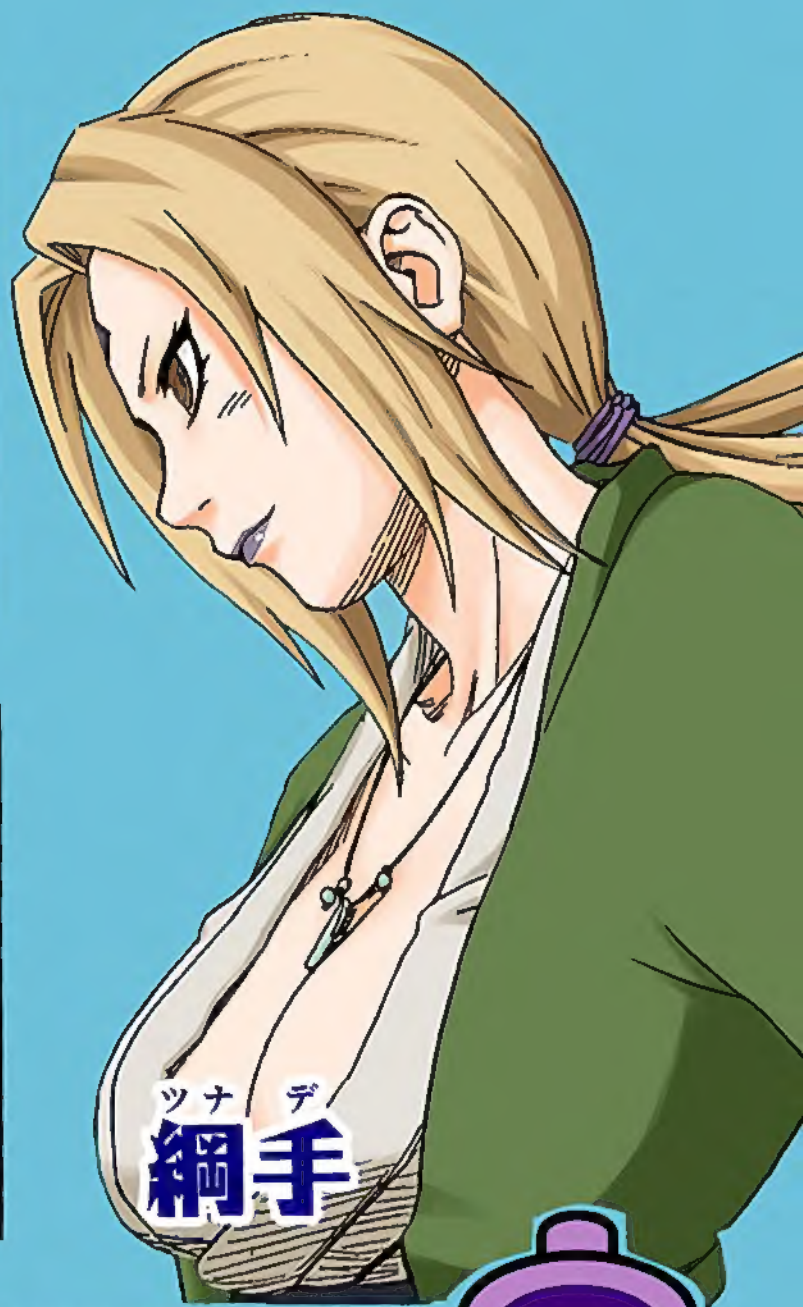
うずまき
ナルト

はるの
春野サクラ



おと よ にんしゅう
音の四人衆





Twelve years ago a destructive nine-tailed fox spirit attacked the ninja village of Konohagakure. The Hokage, or village champion, defeated the fox by sealing its soul into the body of a baby boy. Now that boy, Uzumaki Naruto, has grown up to be a ninja-in-training, learning the art of ninjutsu with his teammates Sakura and Sasuke.

Naruto and company take on the Chûnin Selection Exams but suffer a sudden attack from Orochimaru in the Forest of Death. Orochimaru leaves a curse mark on Sasuke's body and vanishes, only to return during the Exams to launch *Operation Destroy Konoha!*

While Naruto battles Gaara, the Third Hokage falls to Orochimaru. But Konohagakure is saved and Jiraiya and Naruto set out to hunt down the future Fifth Hokage, Tsunade. On the way, they encounter Itachi, Sasuke's demented older brother. And Tsunade has a strange encounter with Orochimaru, resulting in a battle that ends in deadlock!

THE STORY SO FAR . . .

NARUTO

—ナルト—

卷ノ二十

ナルト^{バーサス}VSサスケ!!



CONTENTS



NUMBER 172: THE RETURN	7
NUMBER 173: ANGUISH	27
NUMBER 174: FEELINGS...!	47
NUMBER 175: NARUTO VS. SASUKE!!	67
NUMBER 176: RIVALS	87
NUMBER 177: THE SOUND NINJA FOUR	107
NUMBER 178: INVITATION...!!	127
NUMBER 179: NEVER FORGET...!!	147
NUMBER 180: A PROMISE!!	167

THE RETURN

ナンバー

き きょう

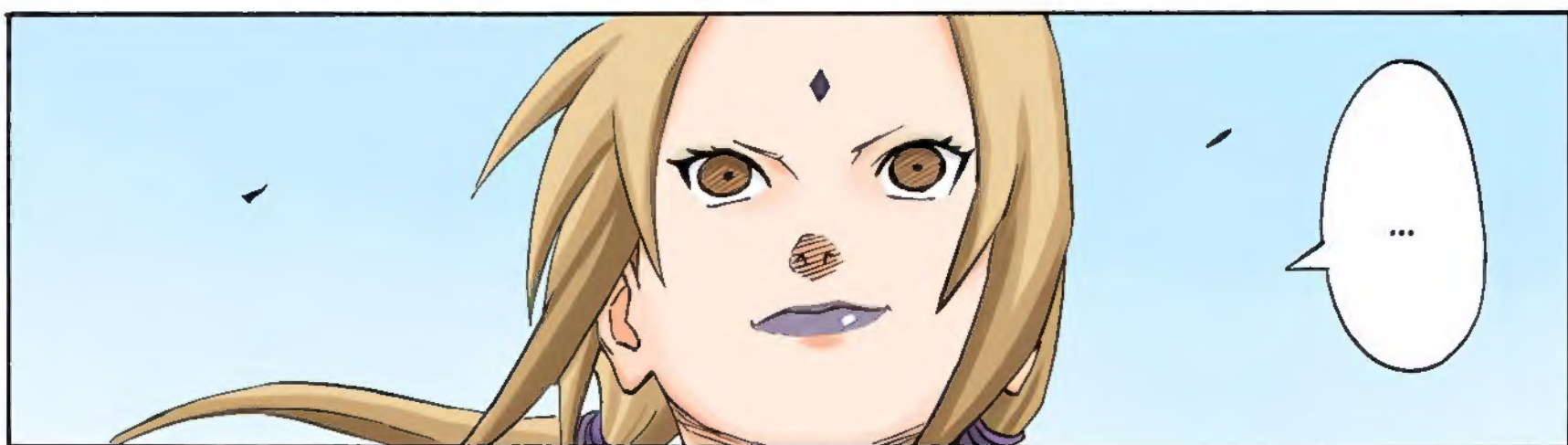


172 : 帰郷

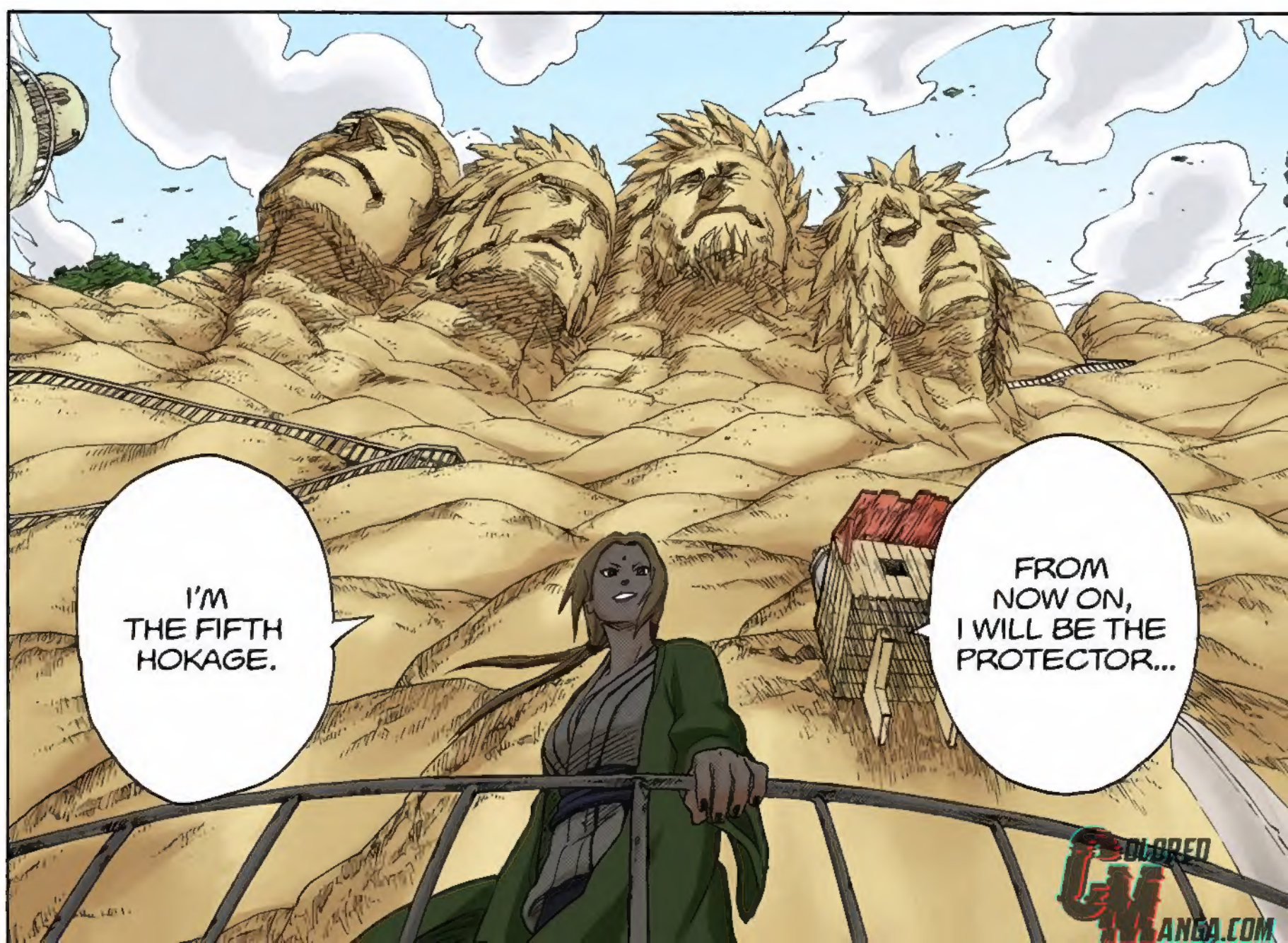




KONOHA'S
CHANGED.



...



I'M
THE FIFTH
HOKAGE.

FROM
NOW ON,
I WILL BE THE
PROTECTOR...



...THIS FROM
THE GUY WHO
WAS JUST
POISONED?

ALL IT TOOK
WAS A FEW
WORDS
FROM THIS
GOOD-
LOOKING
MUG OF
MINE!

WAHA-
HAHA!!



I CAN'T
BELIEVE
YOU TALKED
HER INTO
IT...

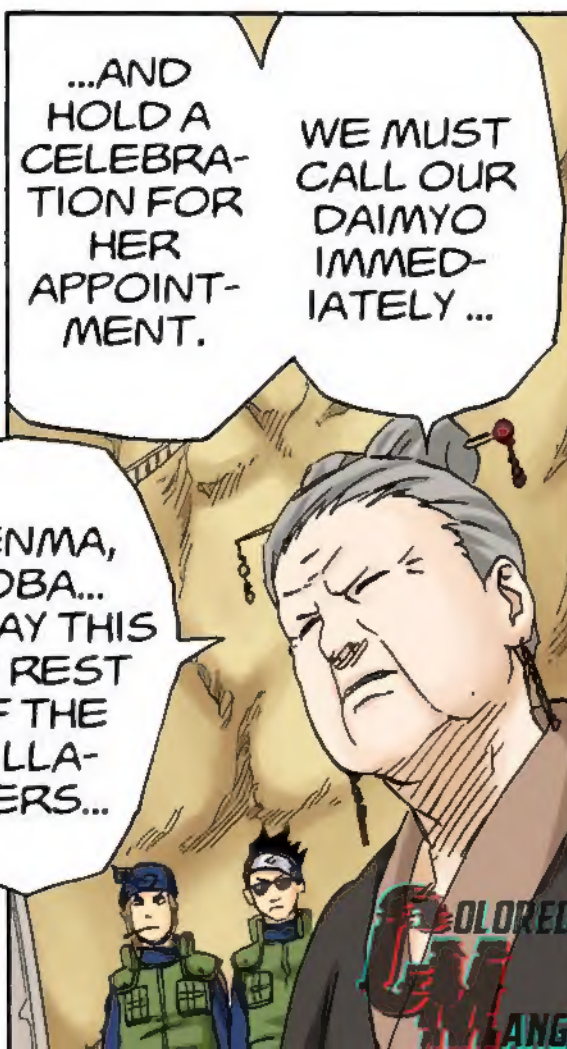


TSUNADE'S
GOT
SOMETHING
TO DO
FIRST!

HOLD
ON A
SECOND!!



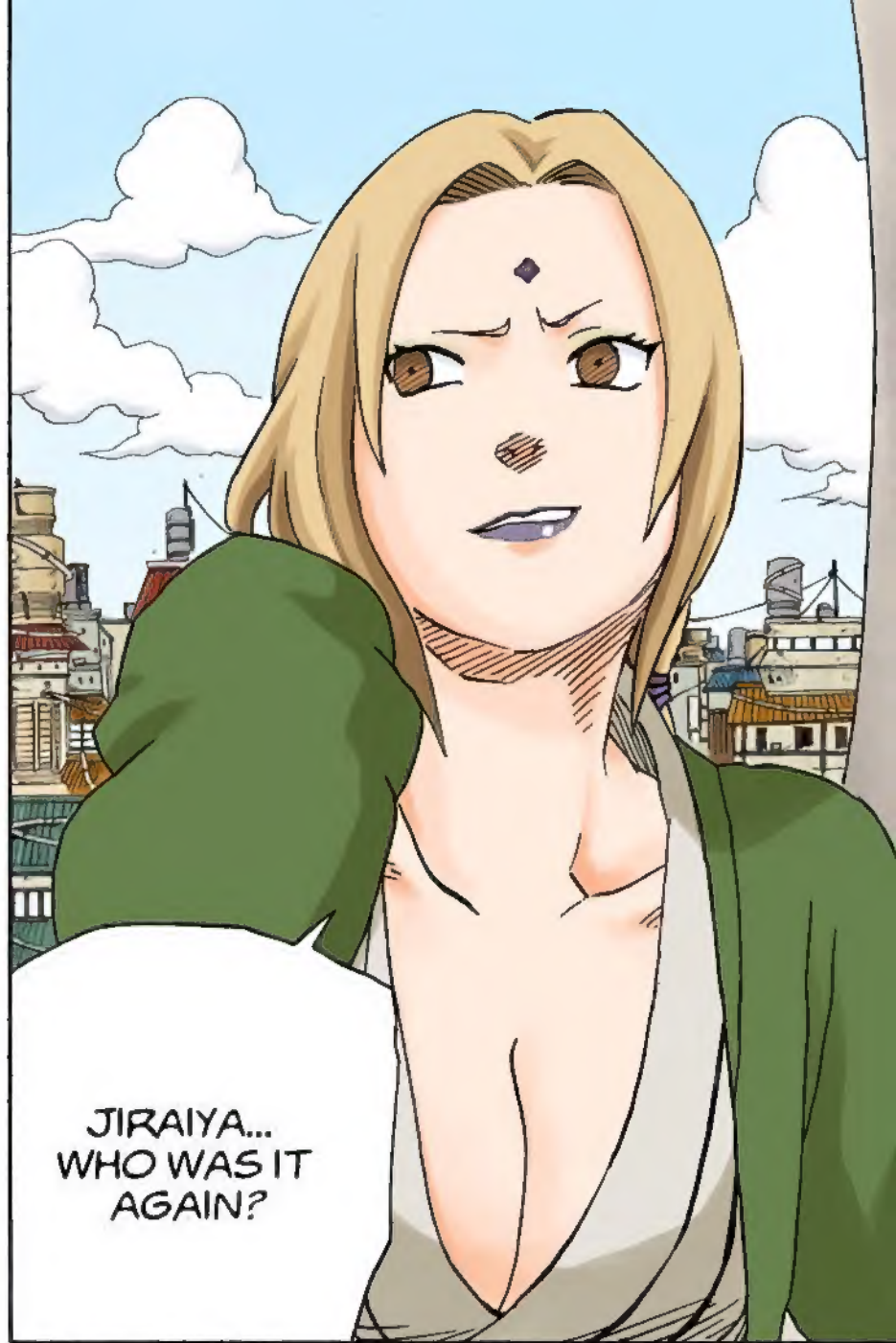
YES,
MILADY!



...AND
HOLD A
CELEBRA-
TION FOR
HER
APPOINT-
MENT.

WE MUST
CALL OUR
DAIMYO
IMMED-
IATELY...

GENMA,
AOBA...
RELAY THIS
TO REST
OF THE
VILLA-
GERS...





ACTUALLY,
THINGS GOT
A LITTLE
COMPLICATED.

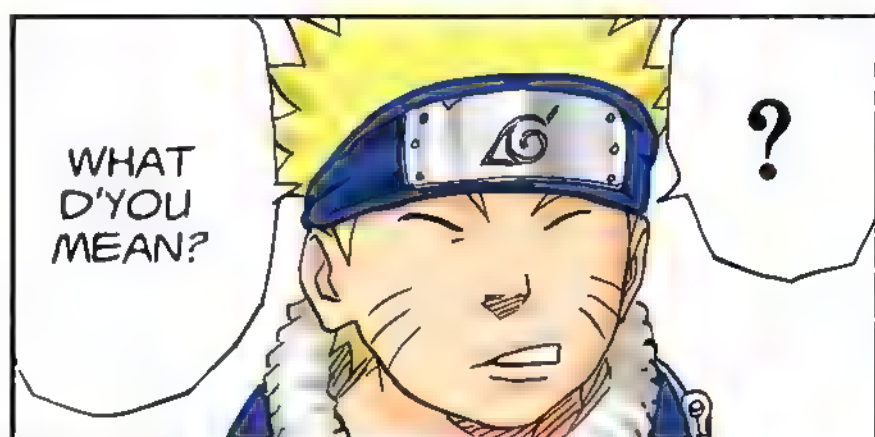


WHAT'RE
YOU DOIN'
HERE,
NARUTO?

FWP

UM,
ALL THAT'S
DOWN THERE
IS THE NINJA
REGISTRY
ROOM,
RIGHT?

ME?
WHAT ARE
YOU DOIN'
HERE?



WHAT
D'YOU
MEAN?

?



HEY!
YOU'RE
NARA, ALL
GROWN
UP?!

AND...
IS THAT
YOUR
KID?!

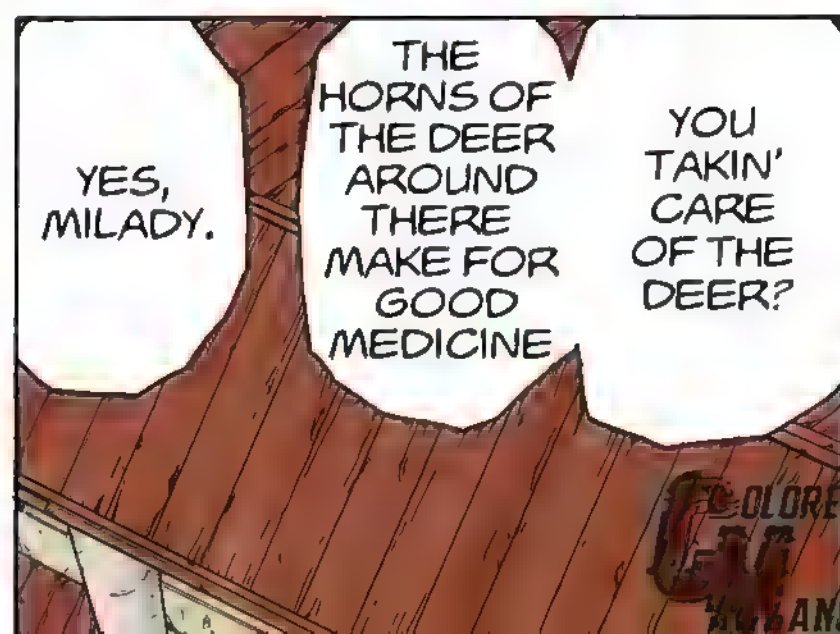
IT'S
BEEN A
LONG
TIME.

TSUNADE.
JIRAIYA.



PSST PSST

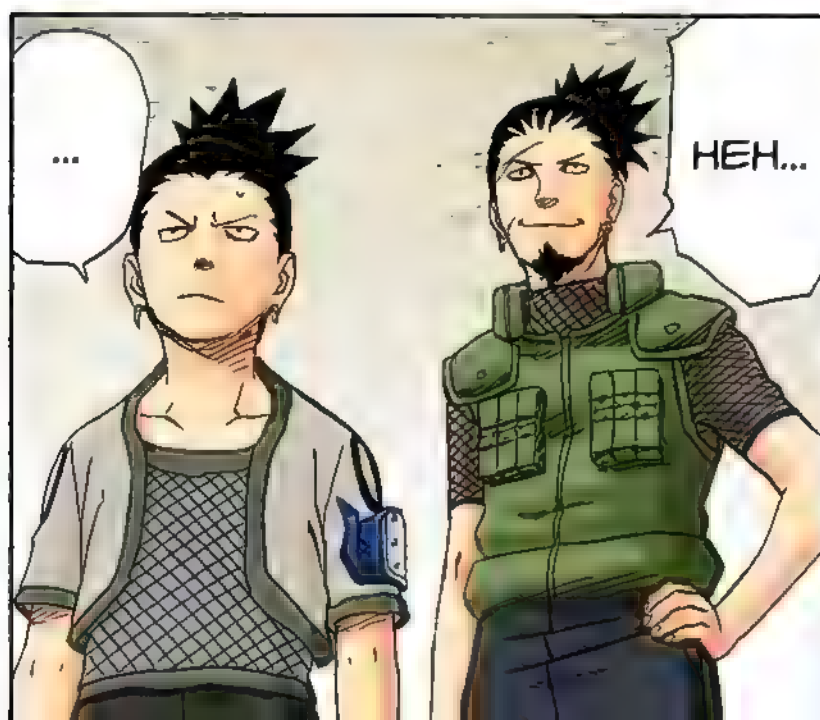
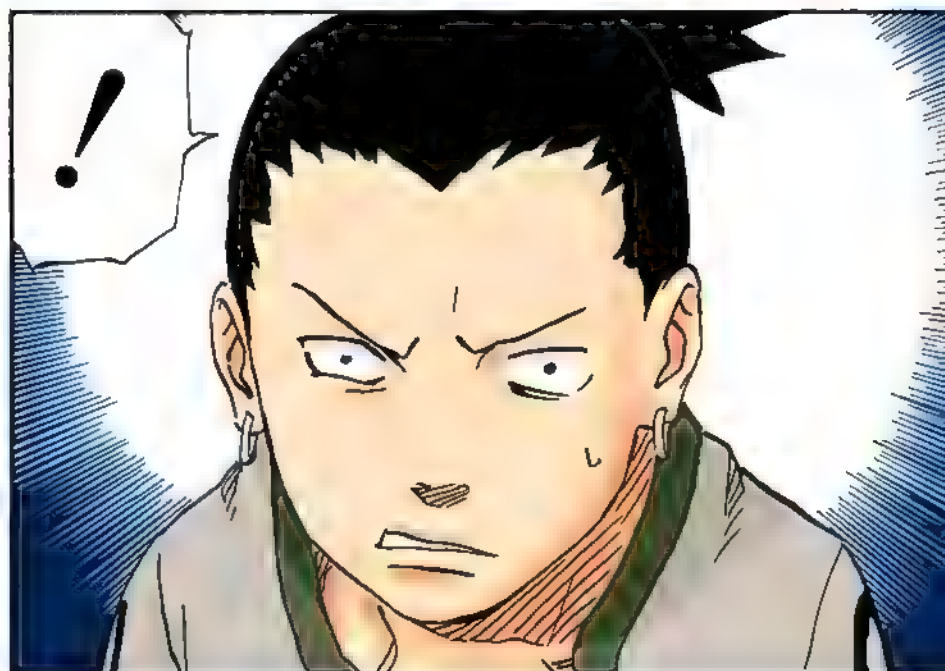
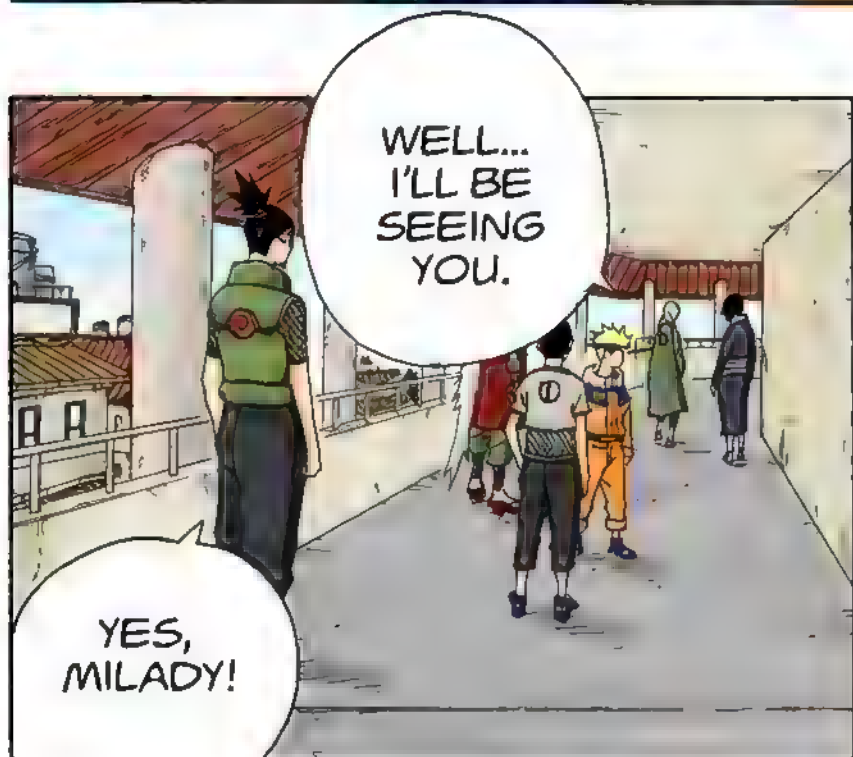
NARUTO,
WHO'S THIS
BOSSY
LITTLE
GIRL?

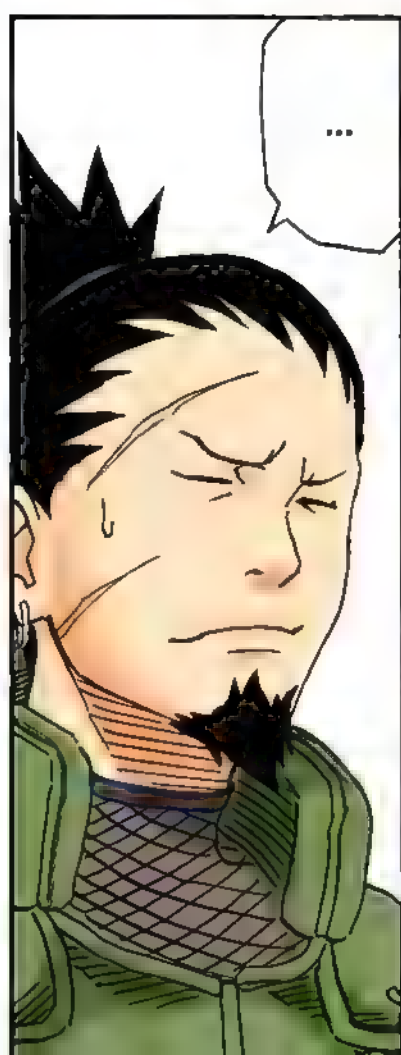
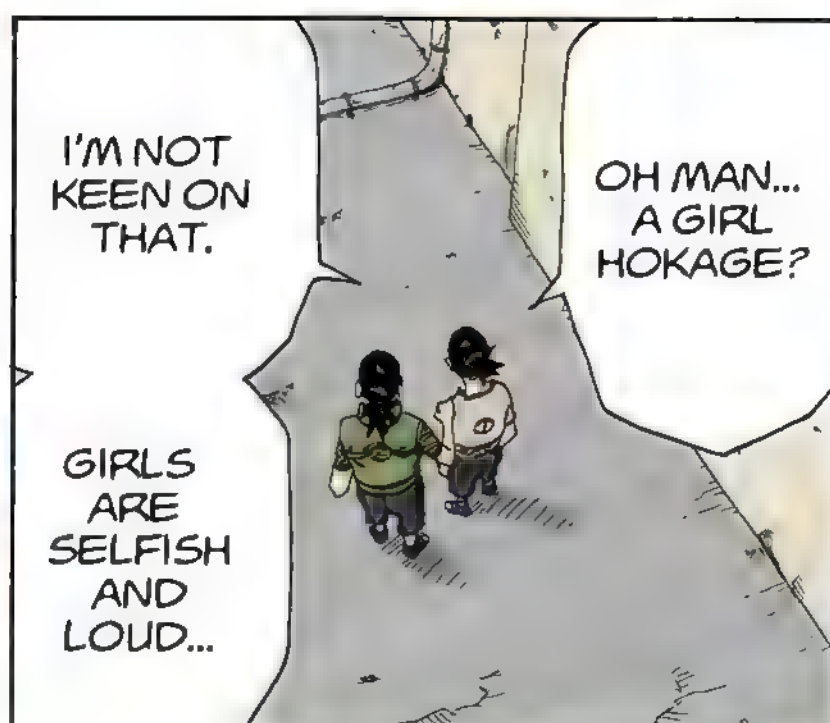
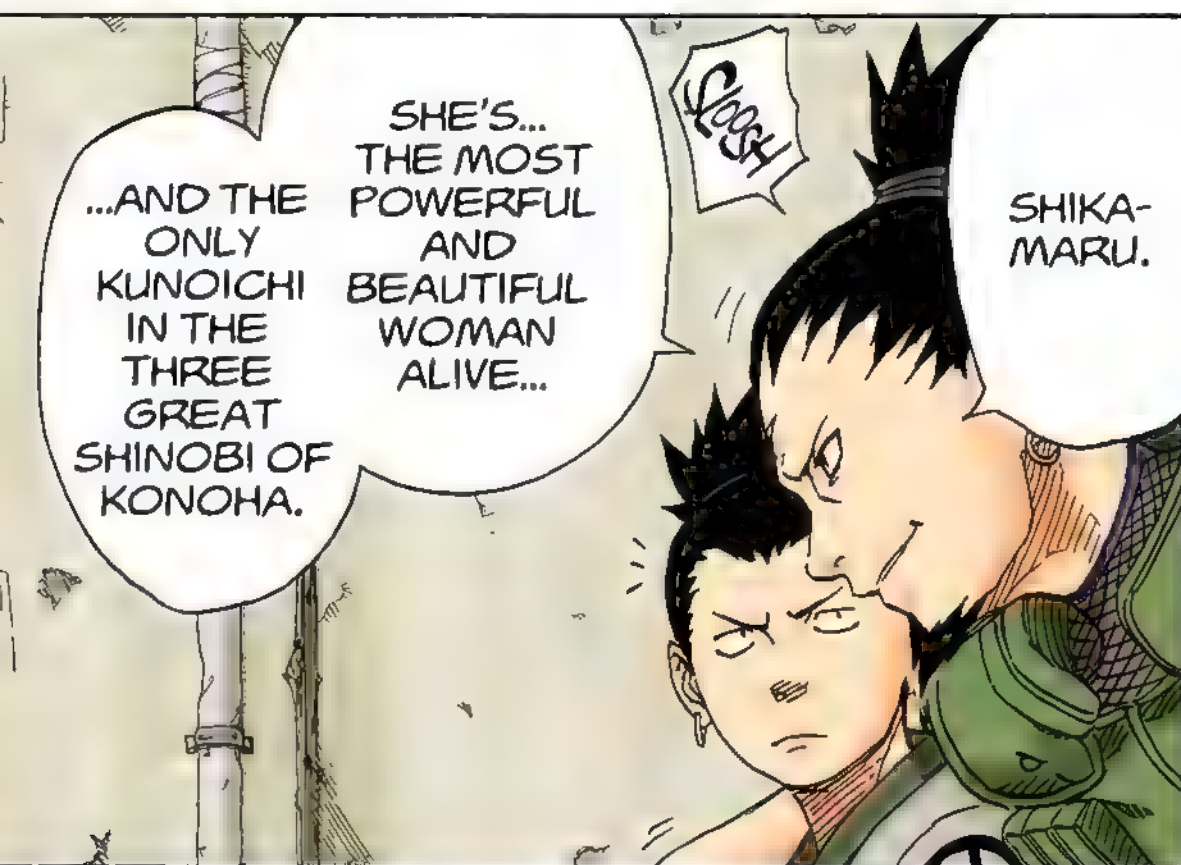


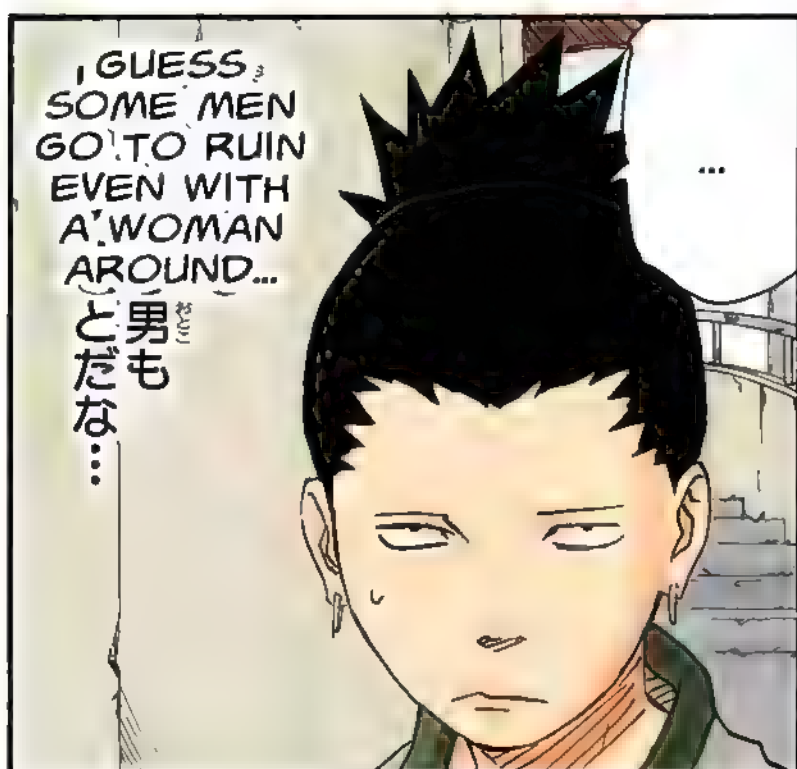
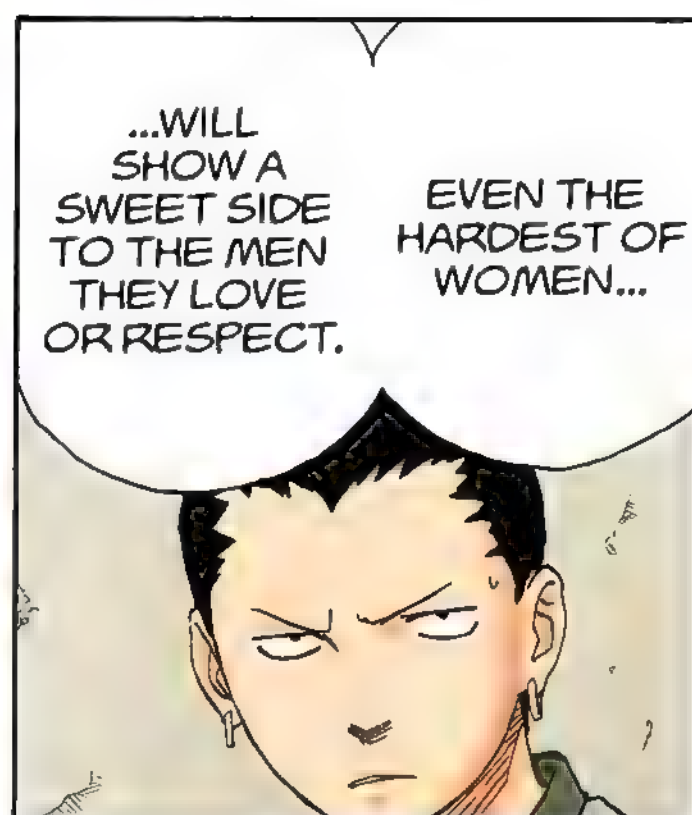
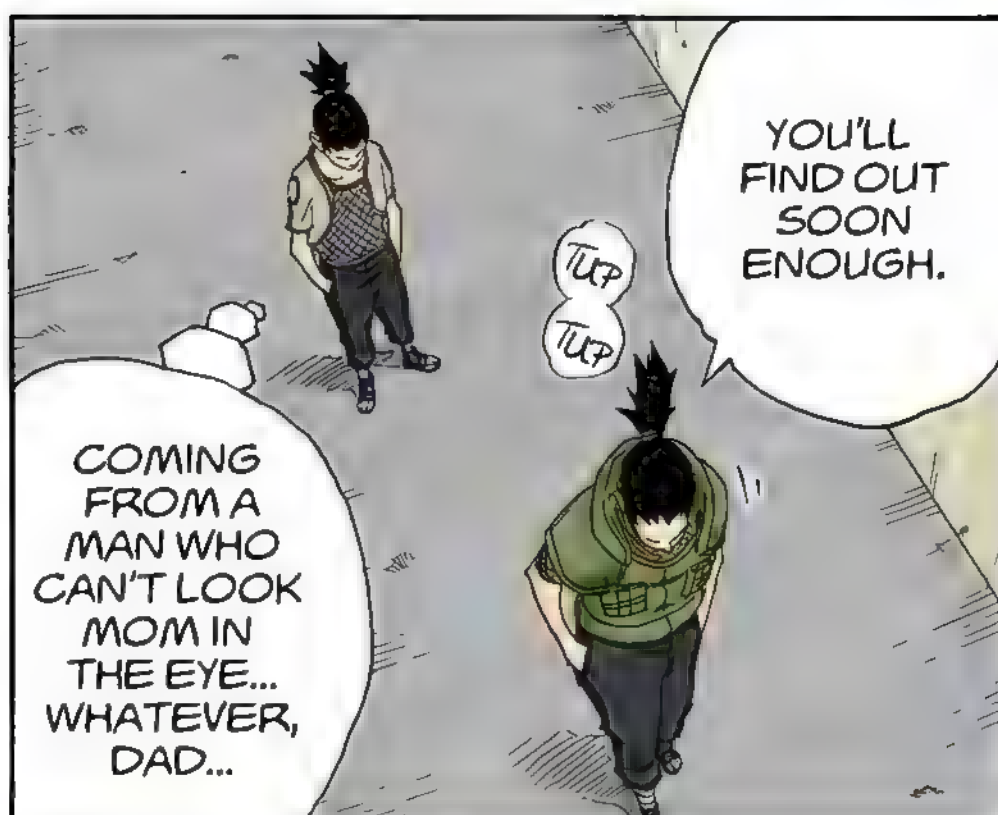
YES,
MILADY.

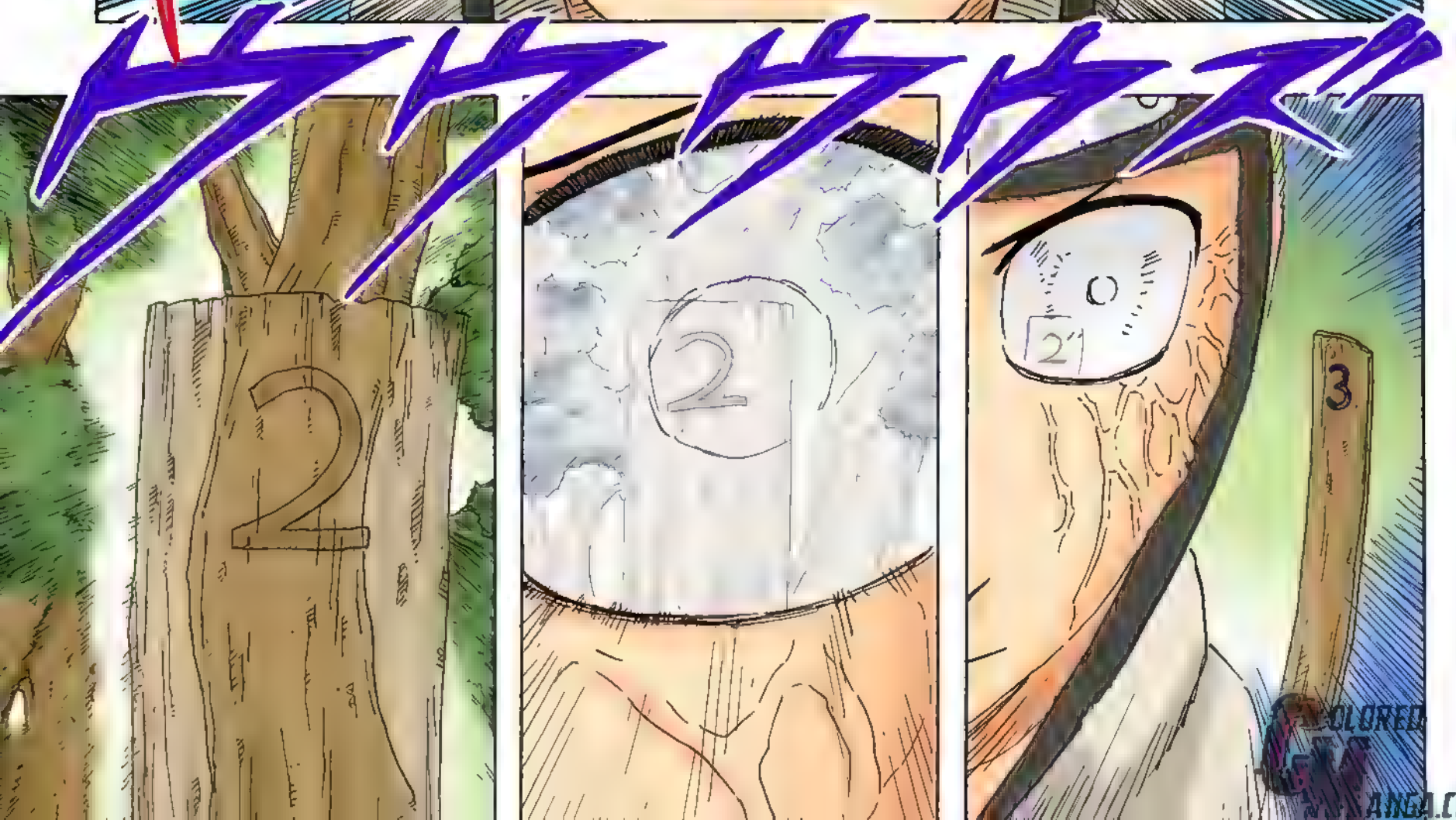
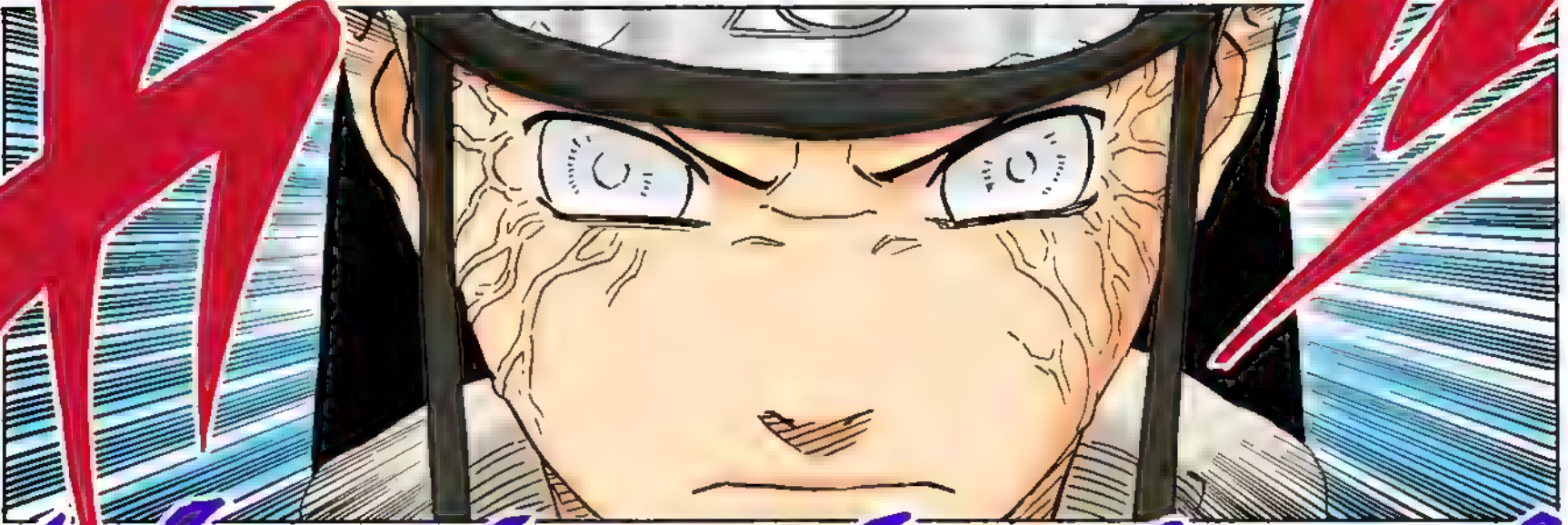
THE
HORNS OF
THE DEER
AROUND
THERE
MAKE FOR
GOOD
MEDICINE

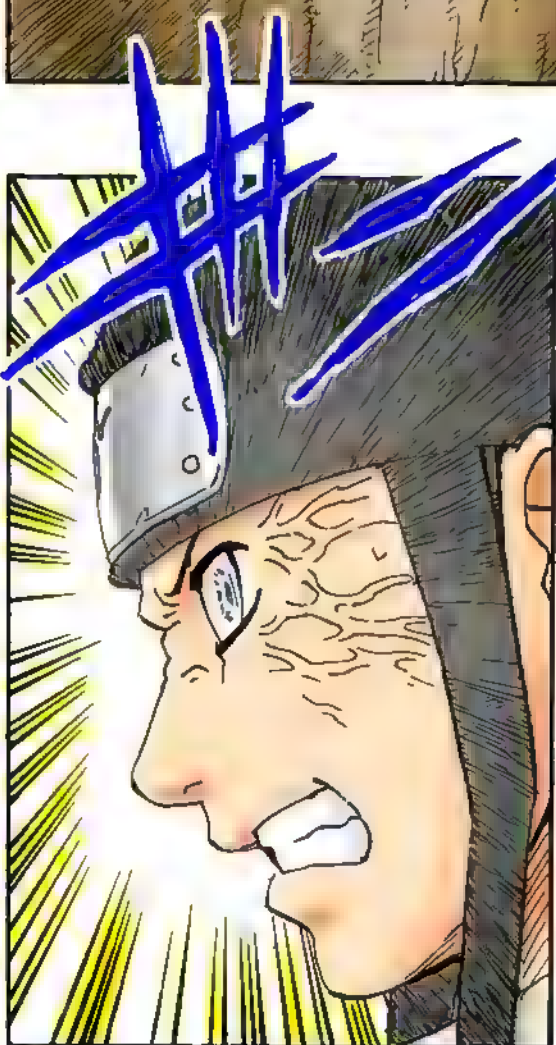
YOU
TAKIN'
CARE
OF THE
DEER?

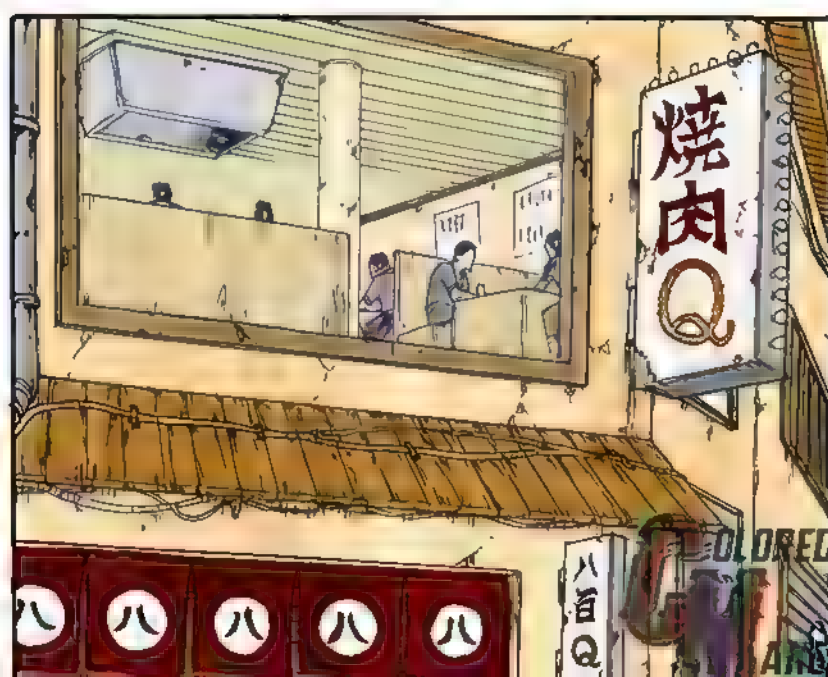
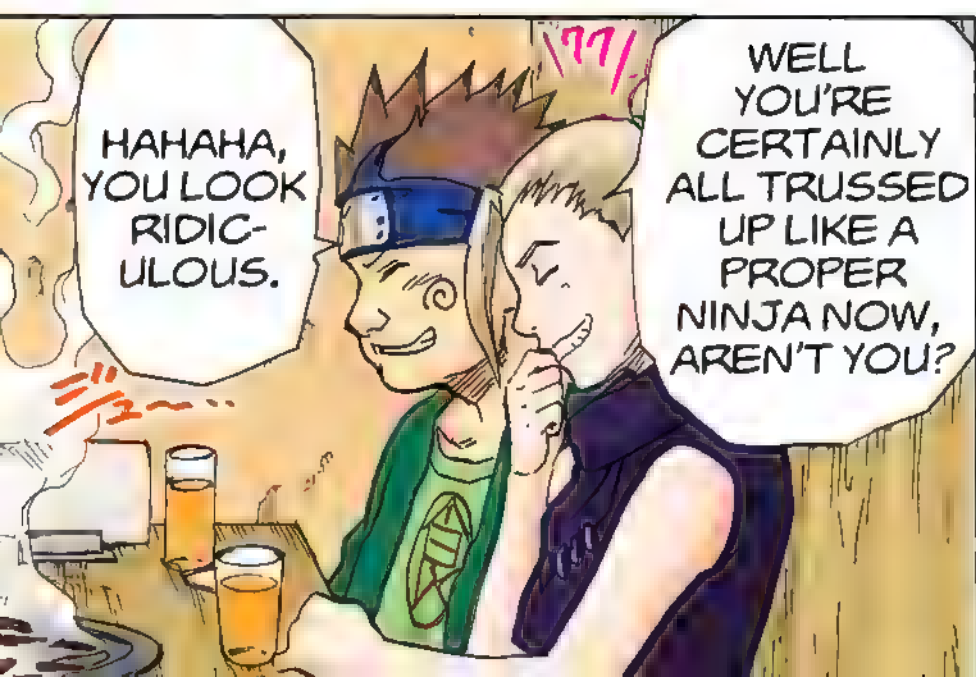
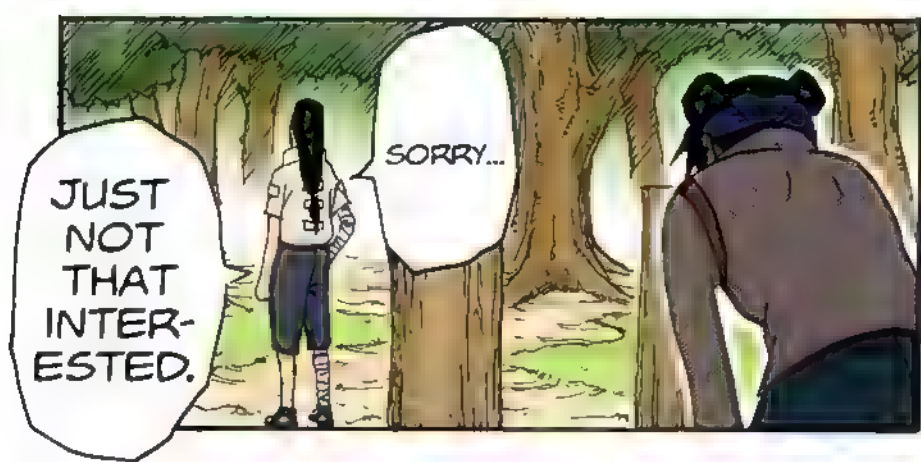
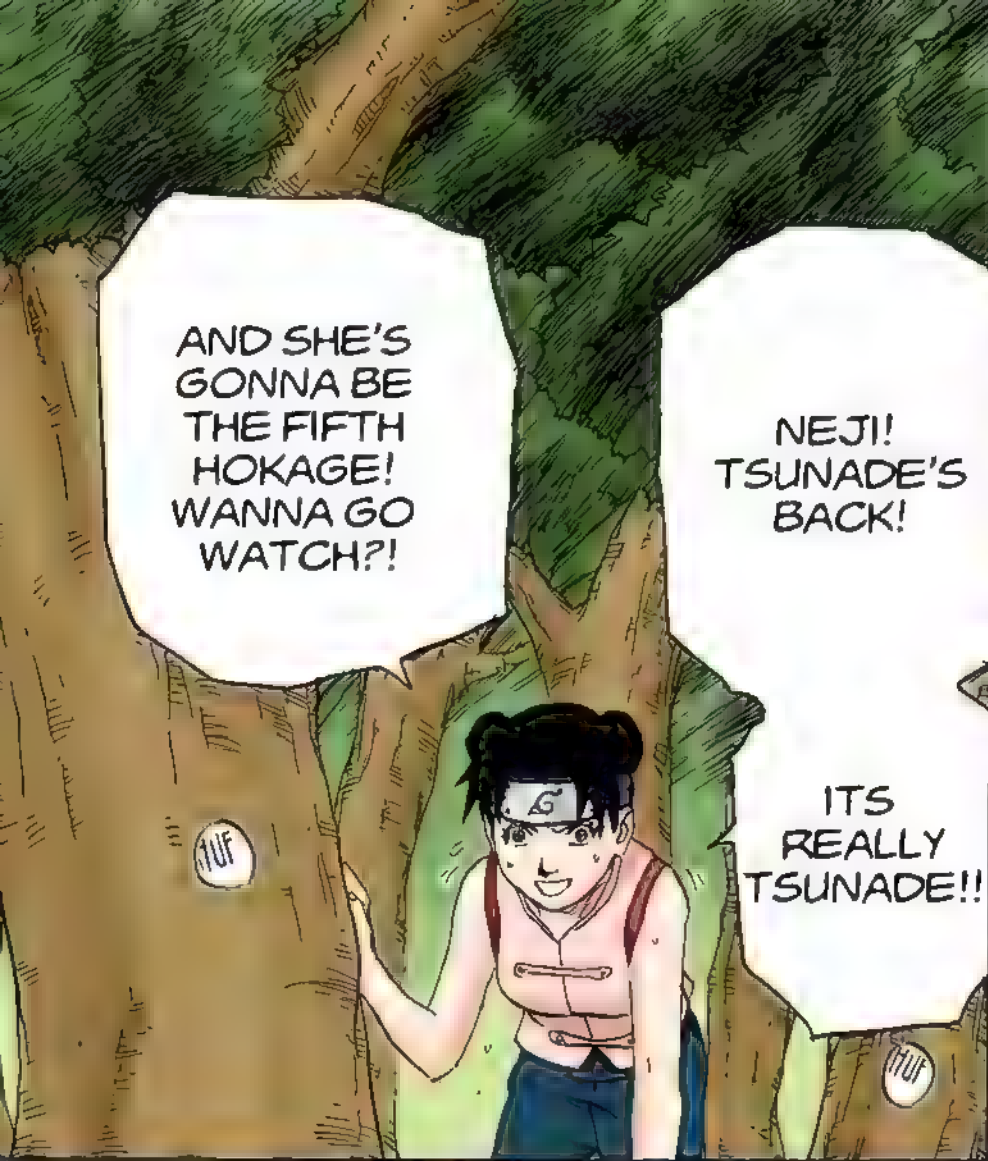


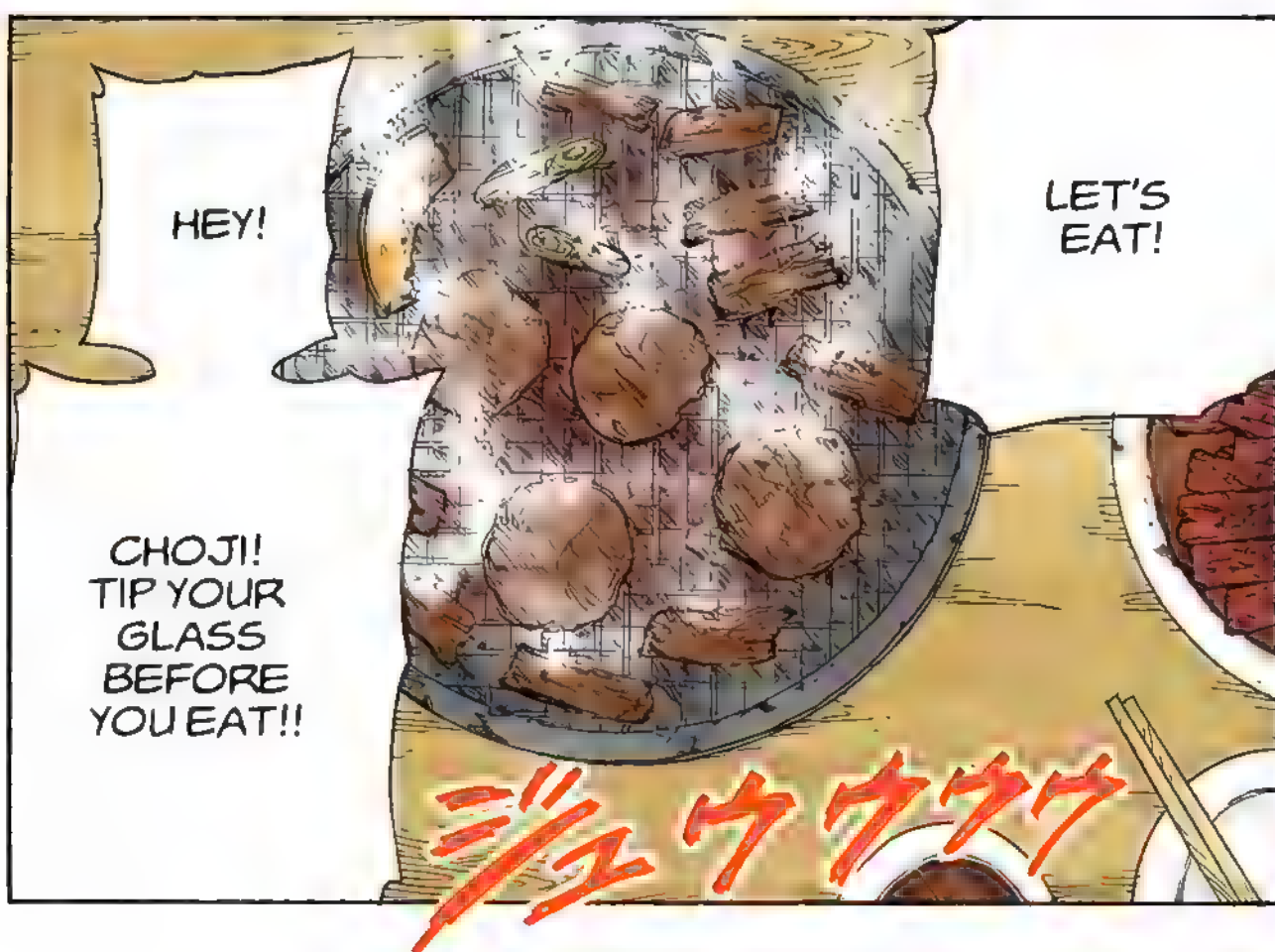


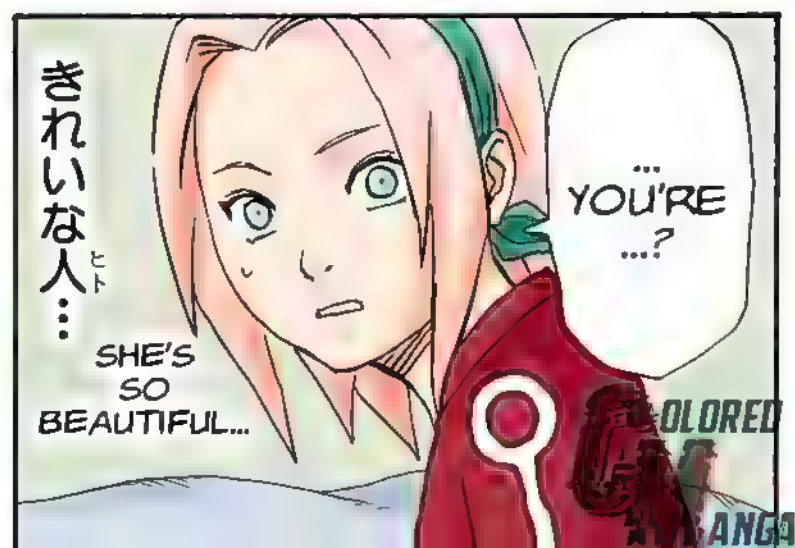
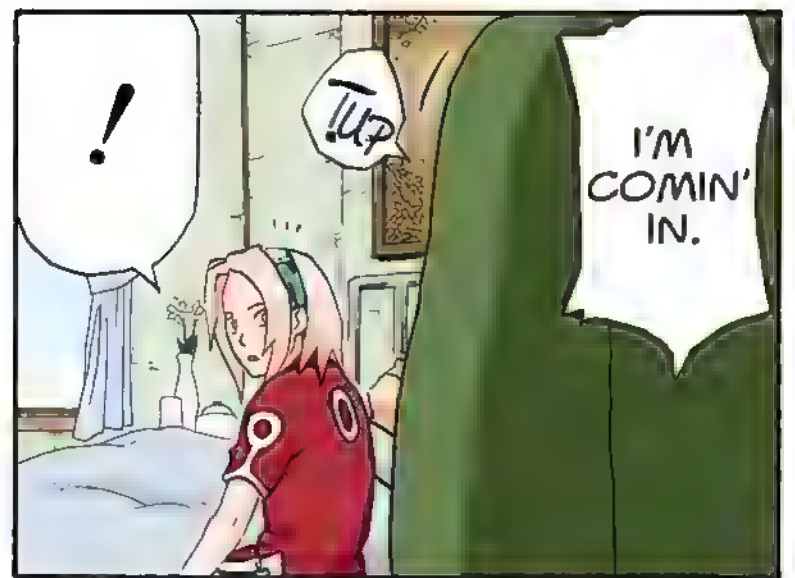
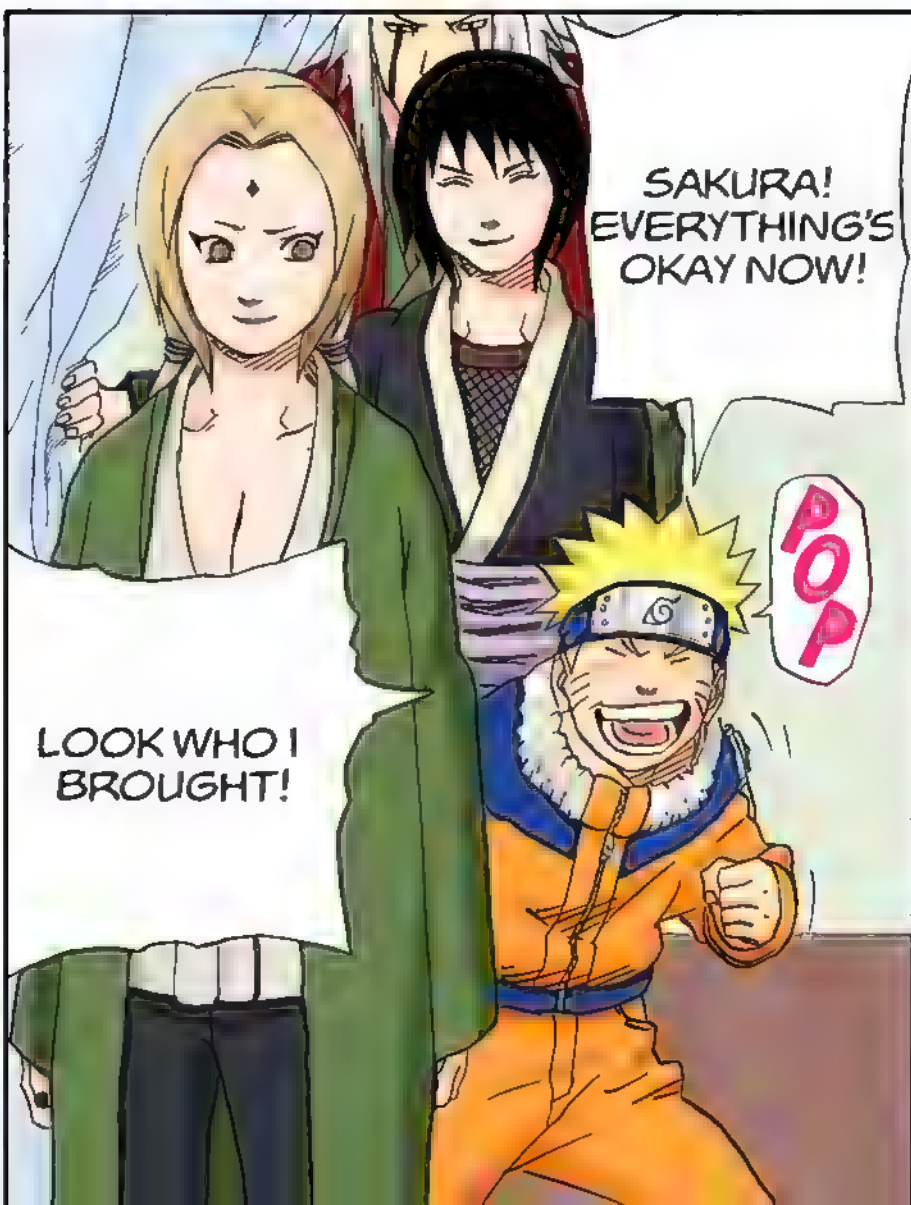
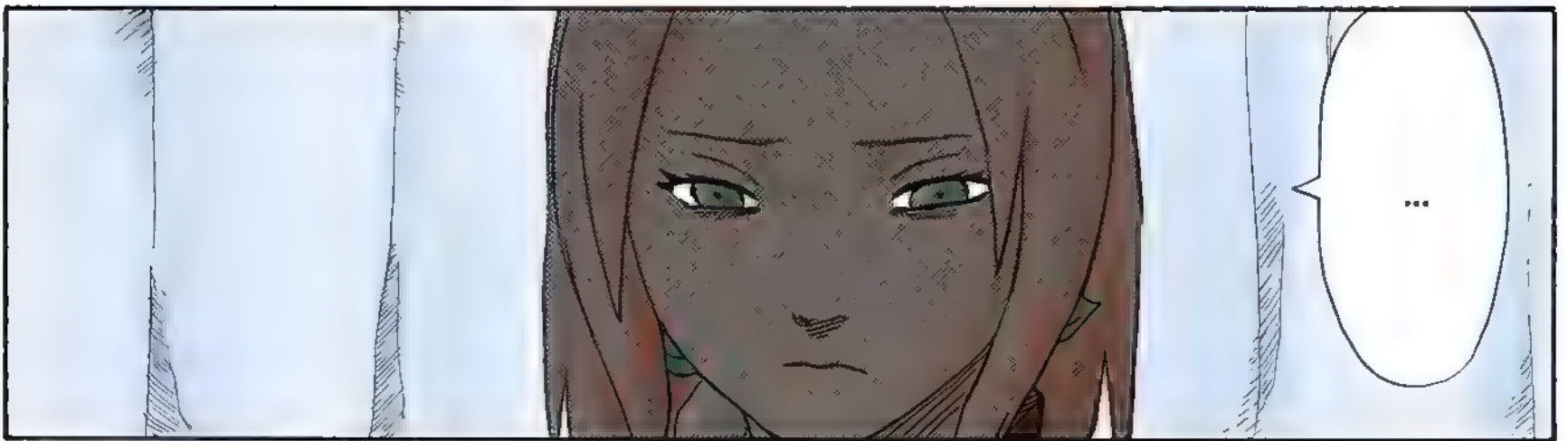
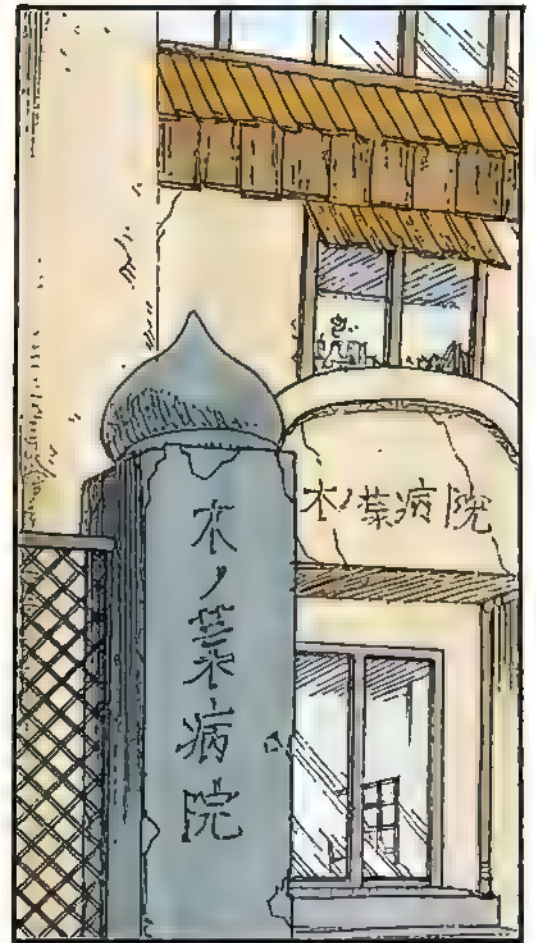
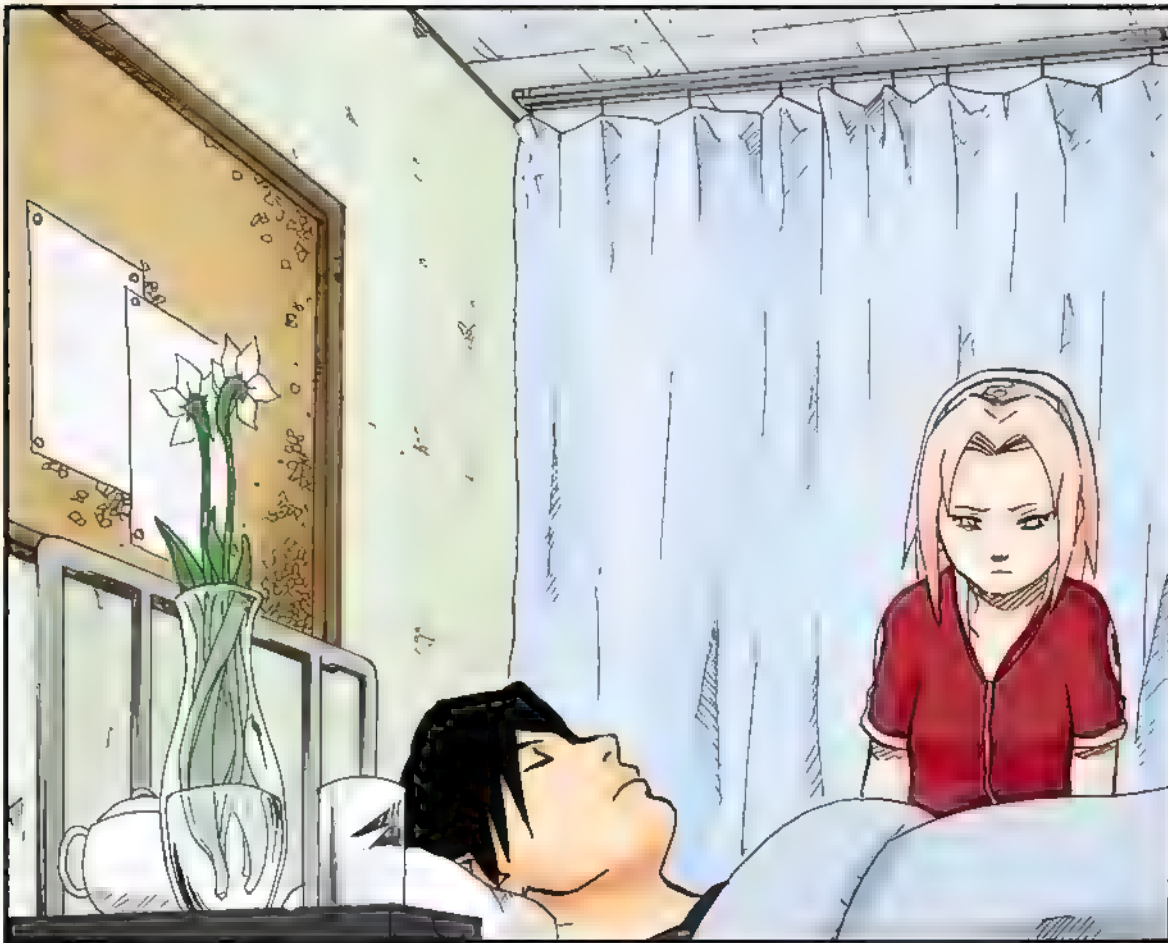


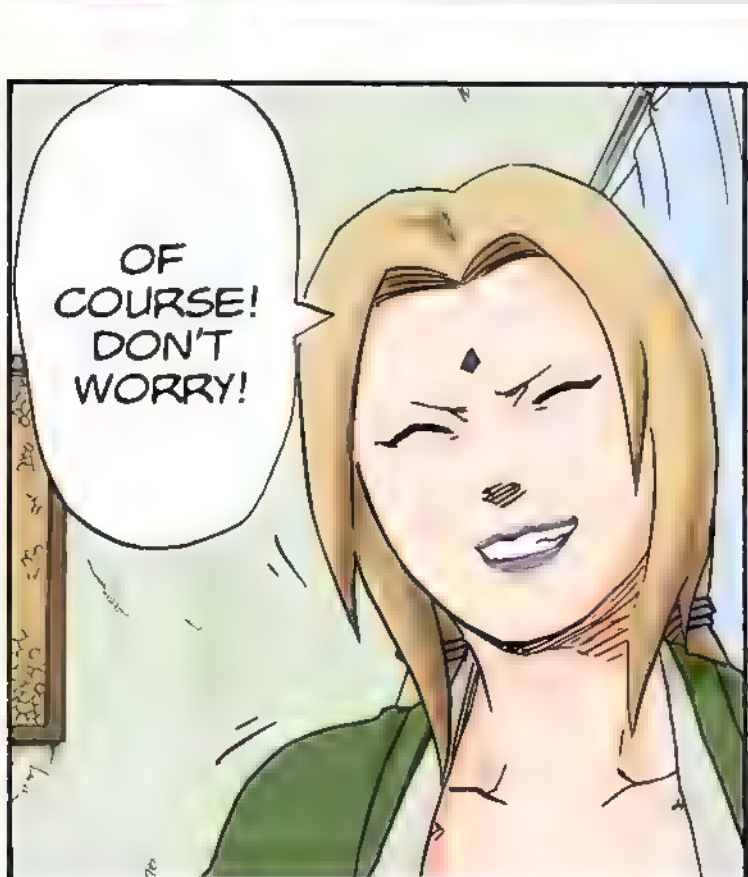
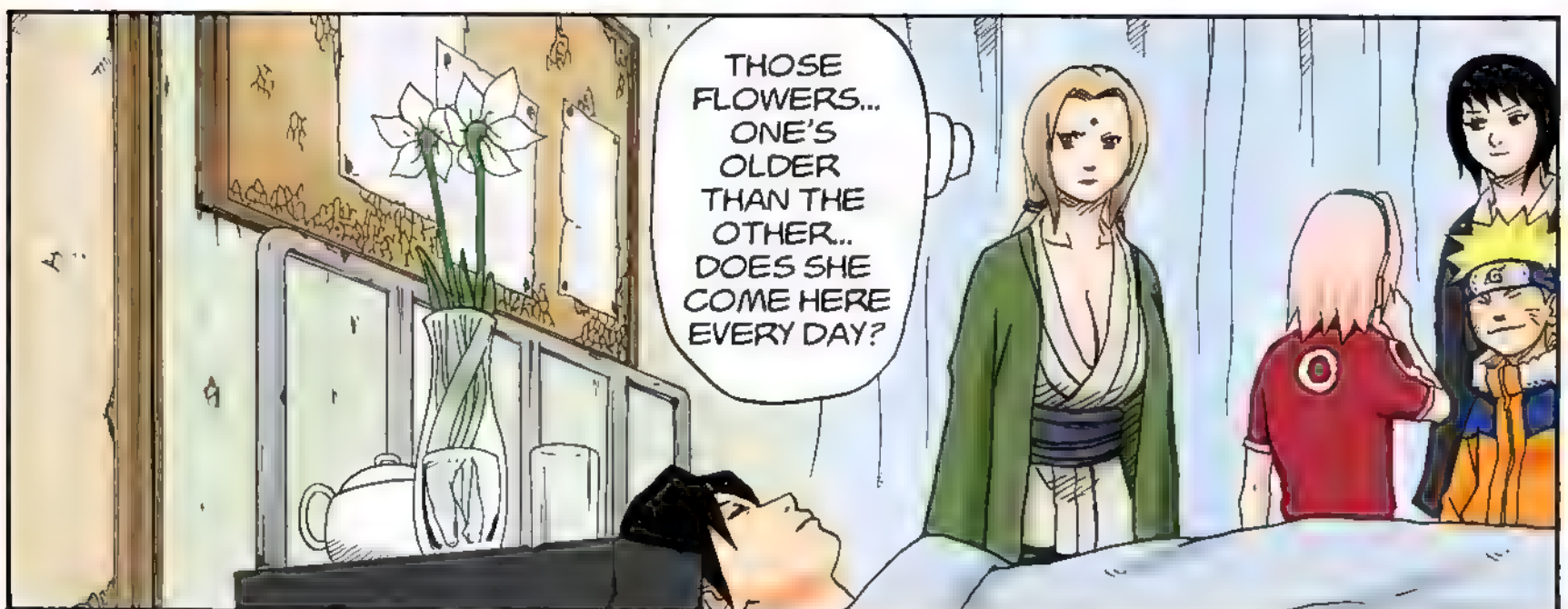
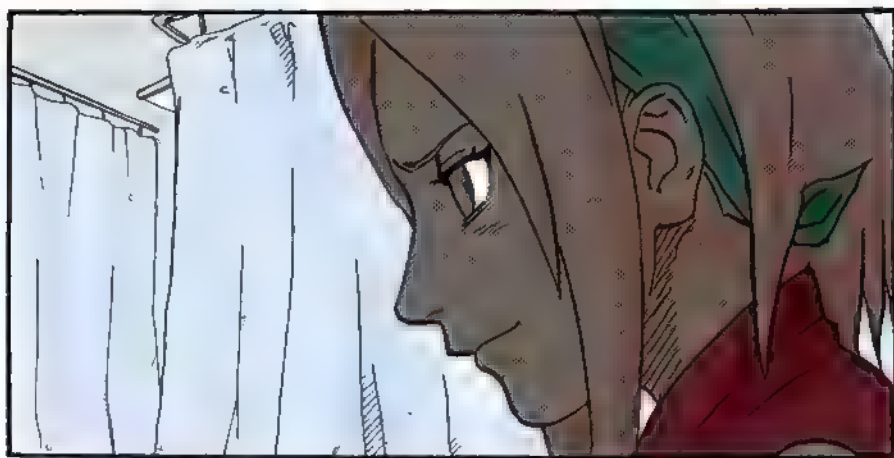
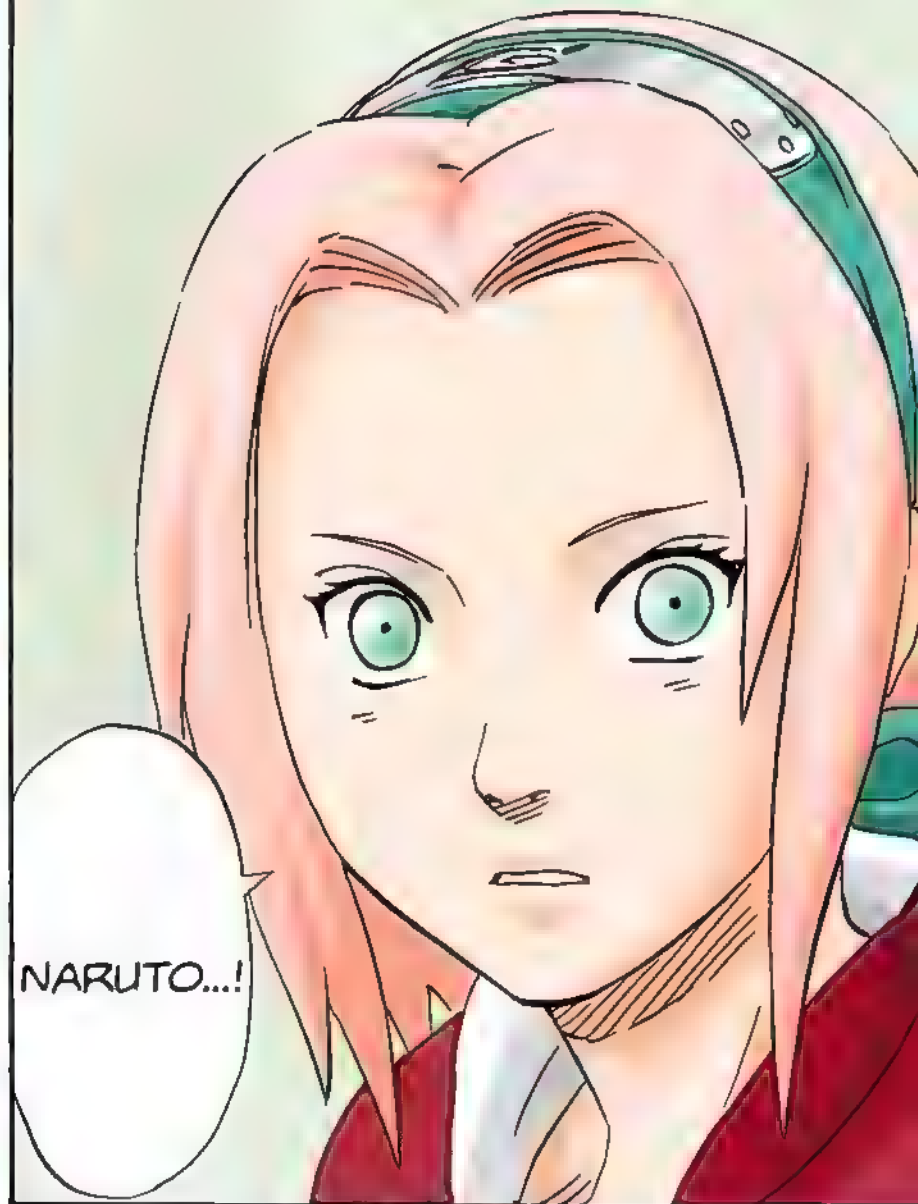


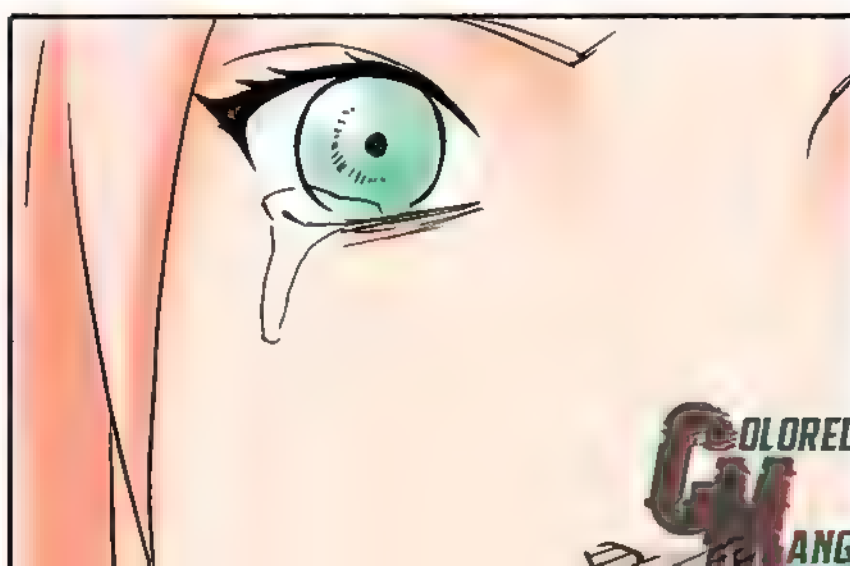
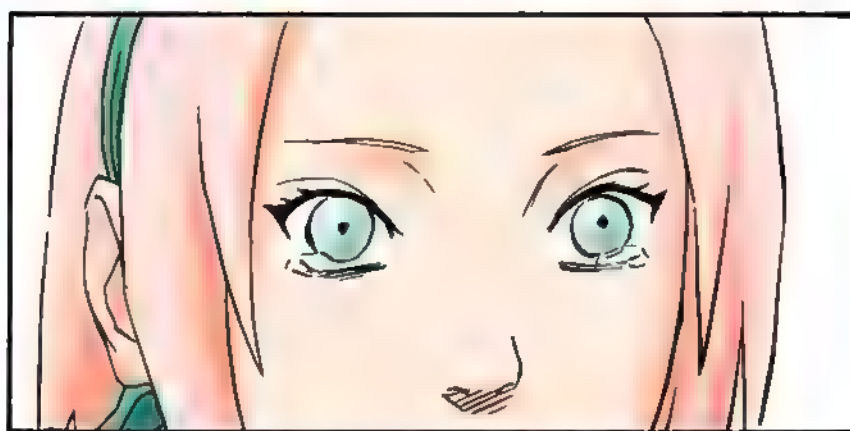
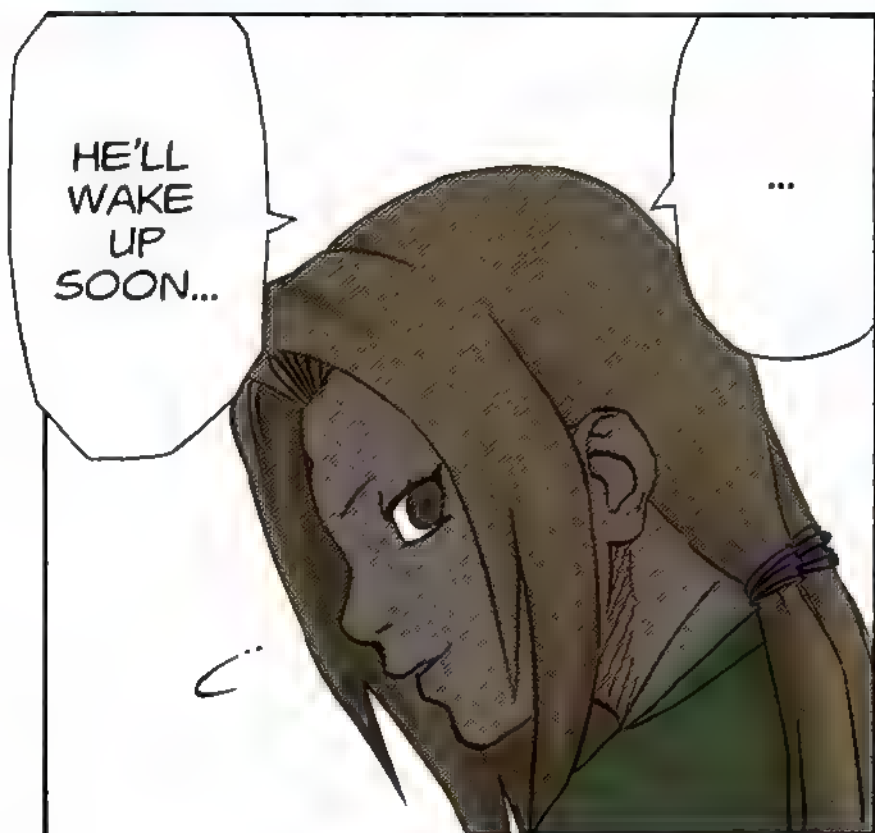
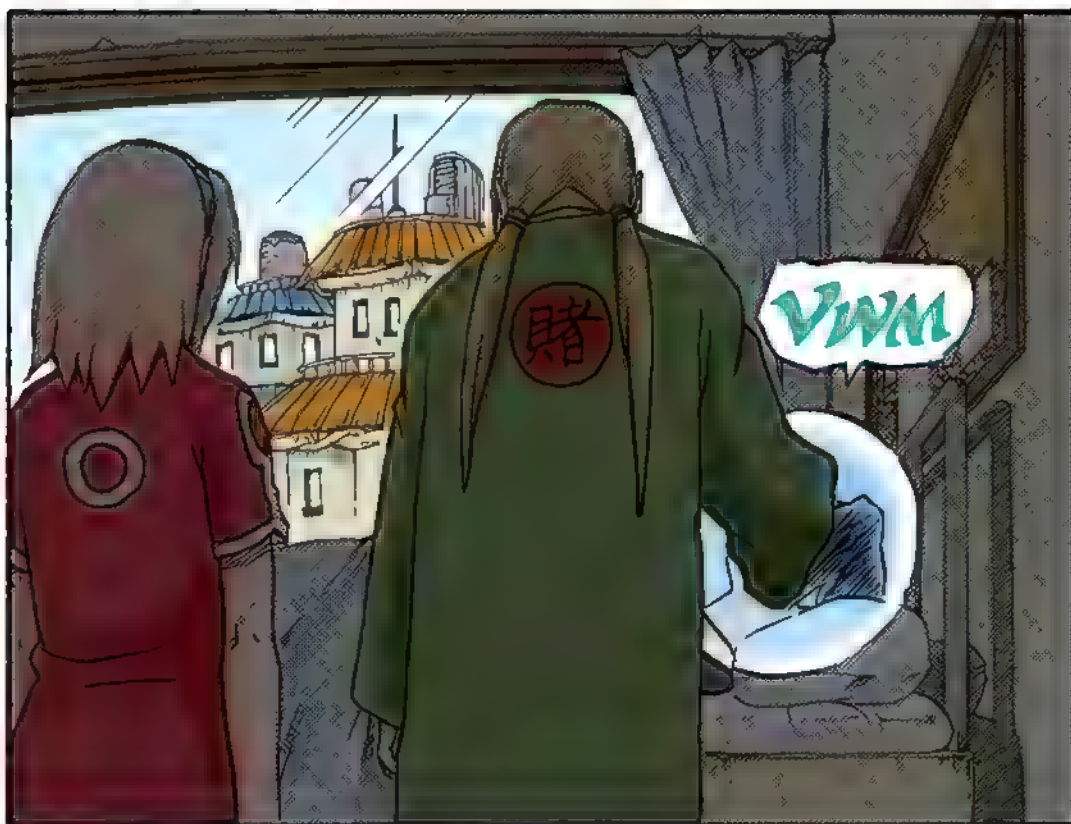
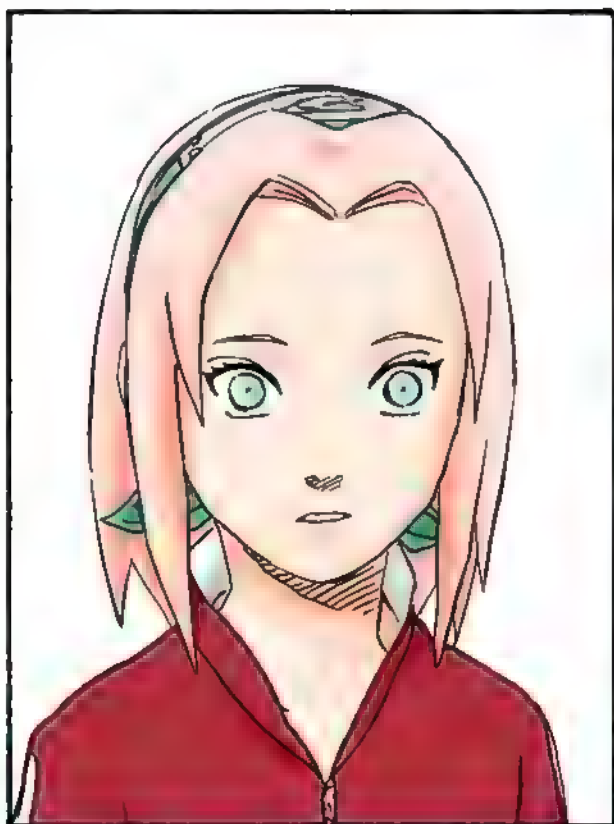


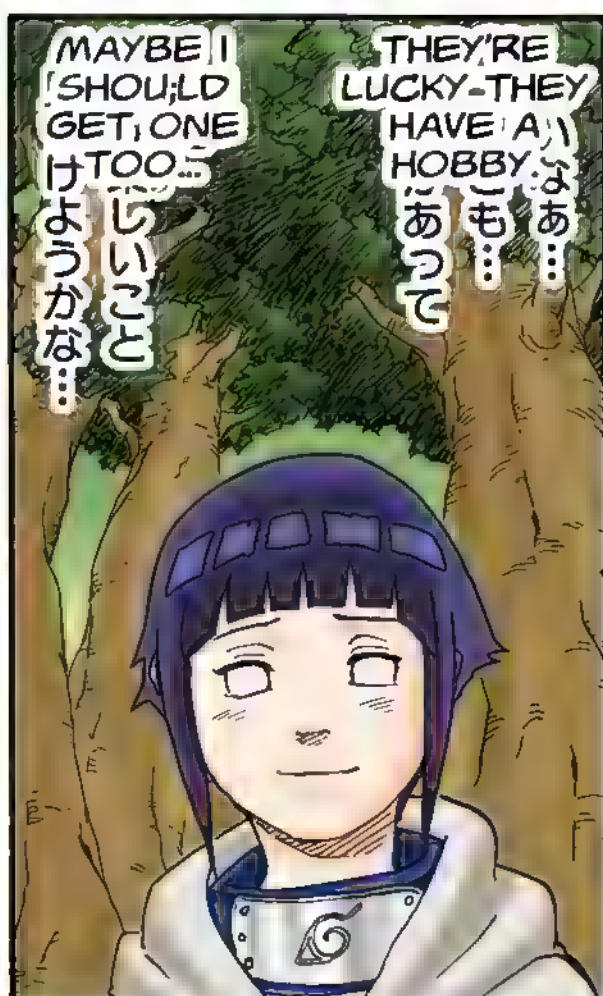
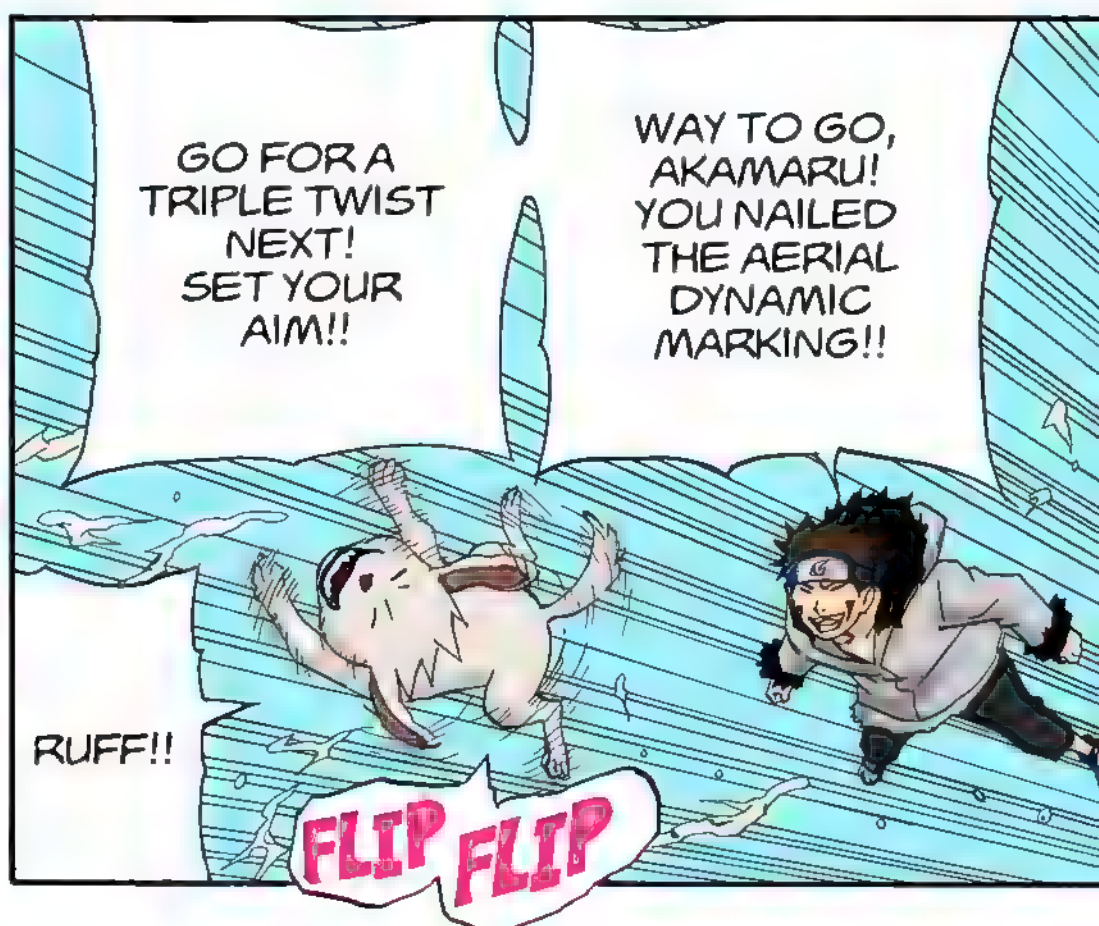
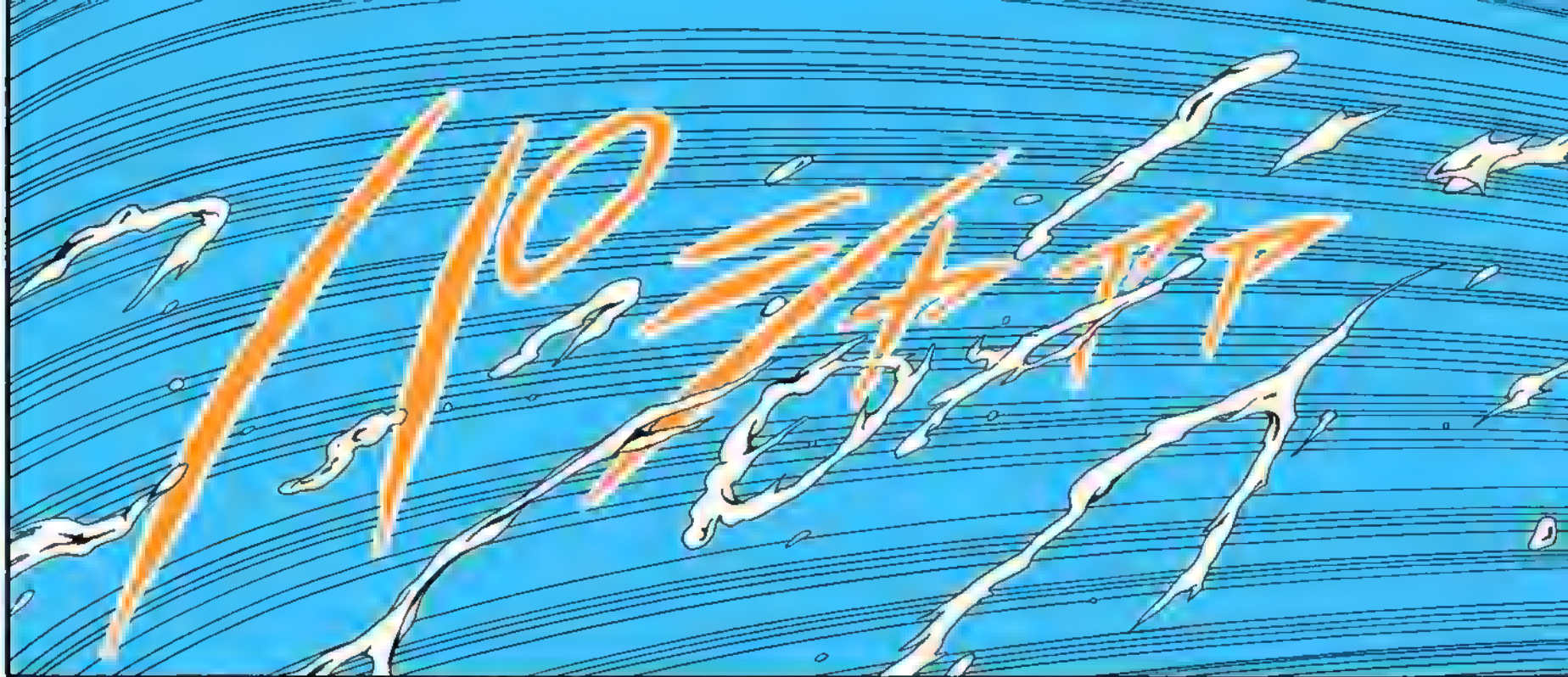


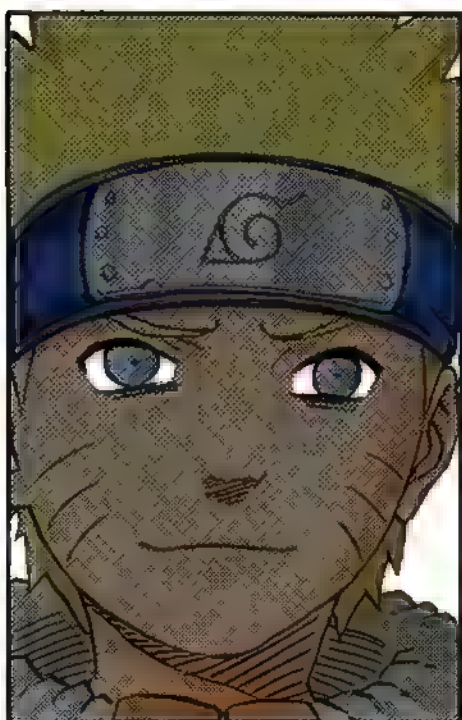
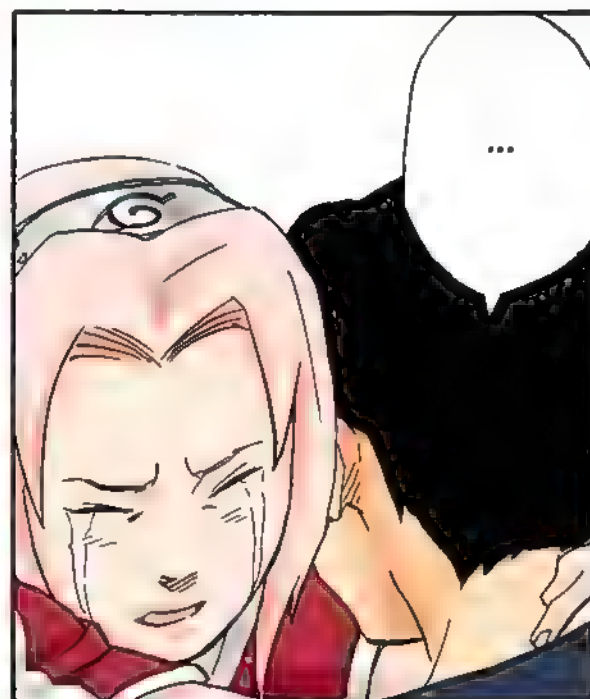
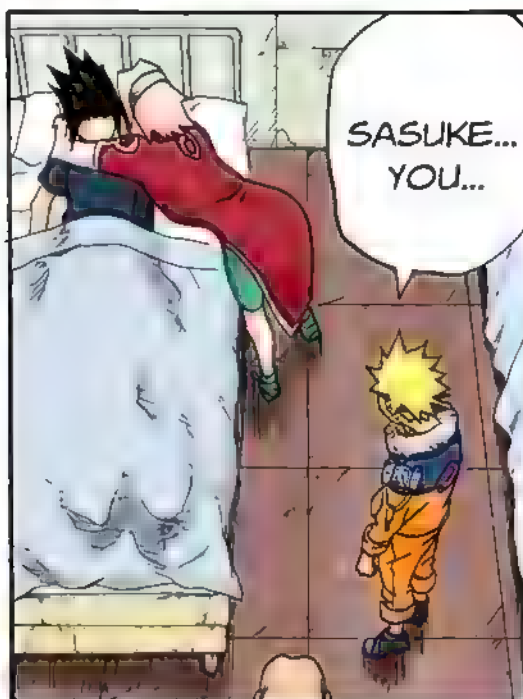
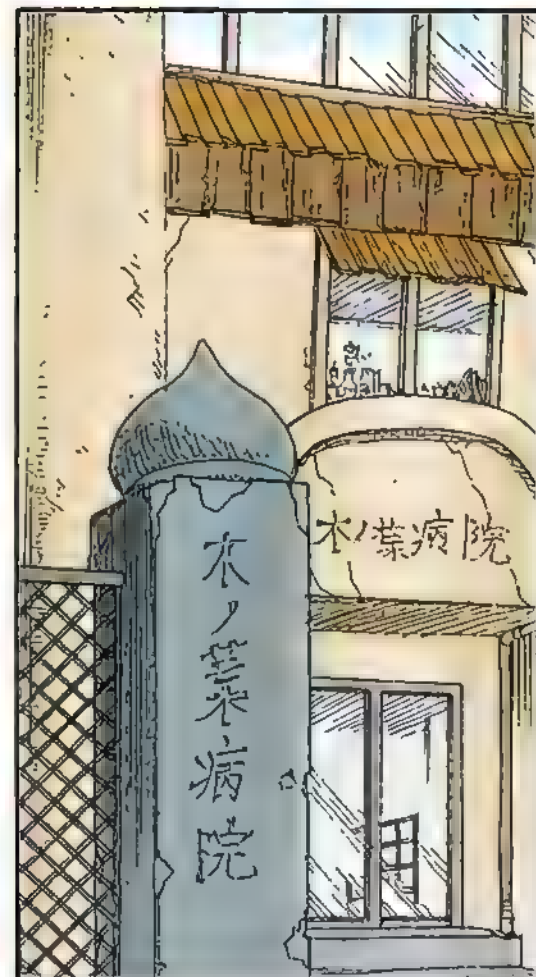
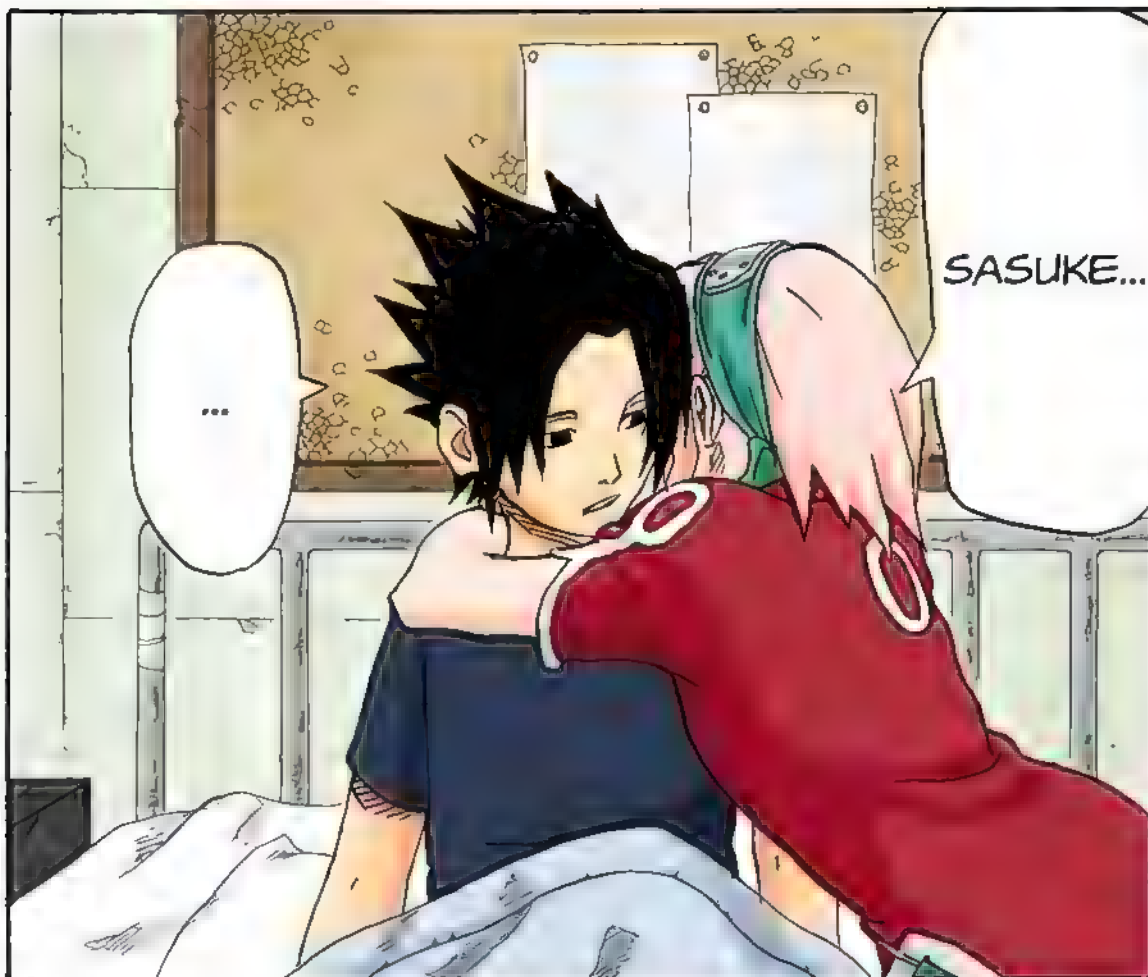


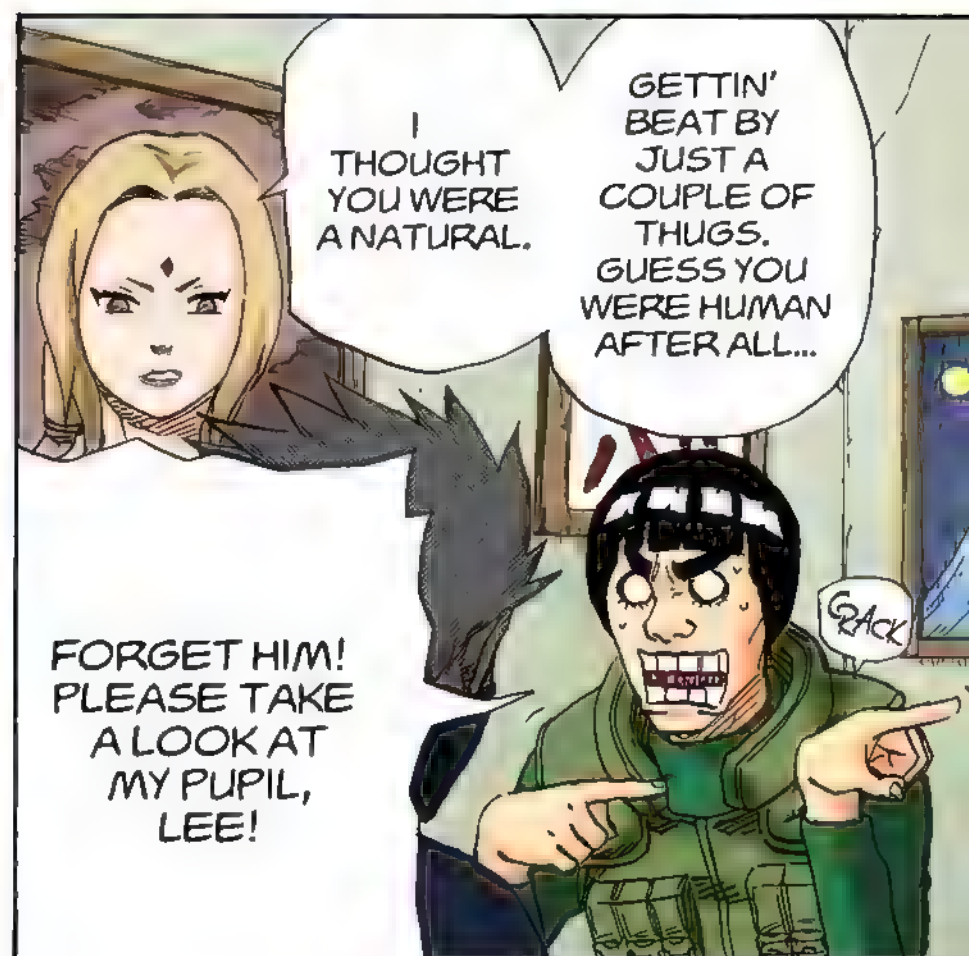
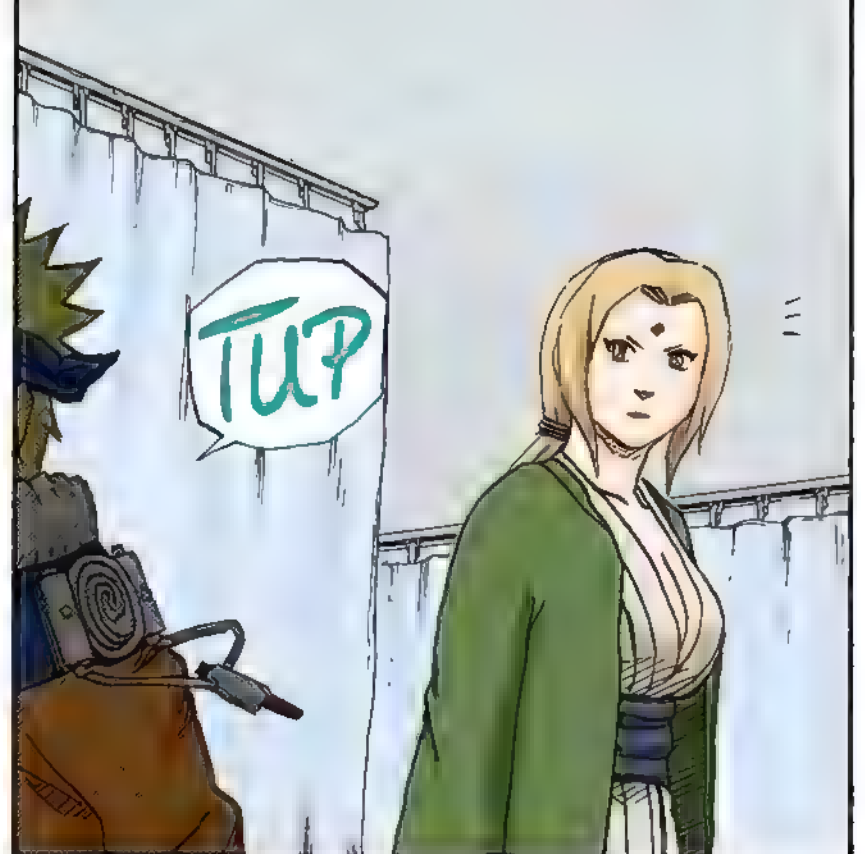
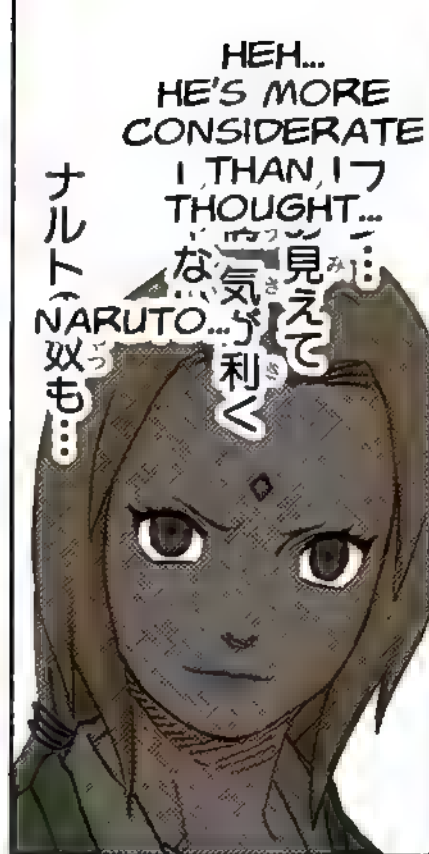
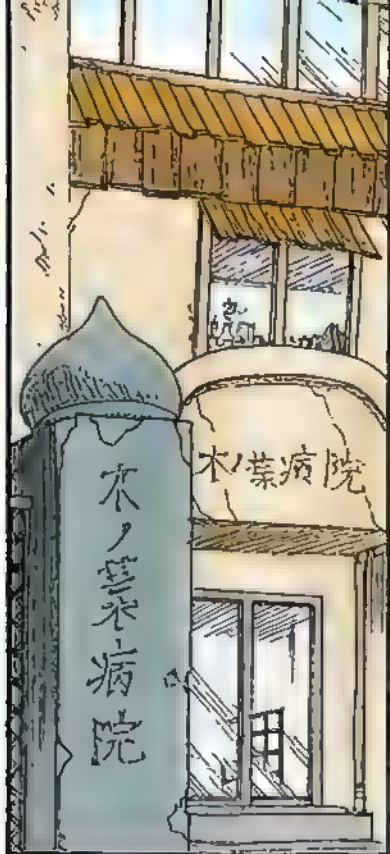


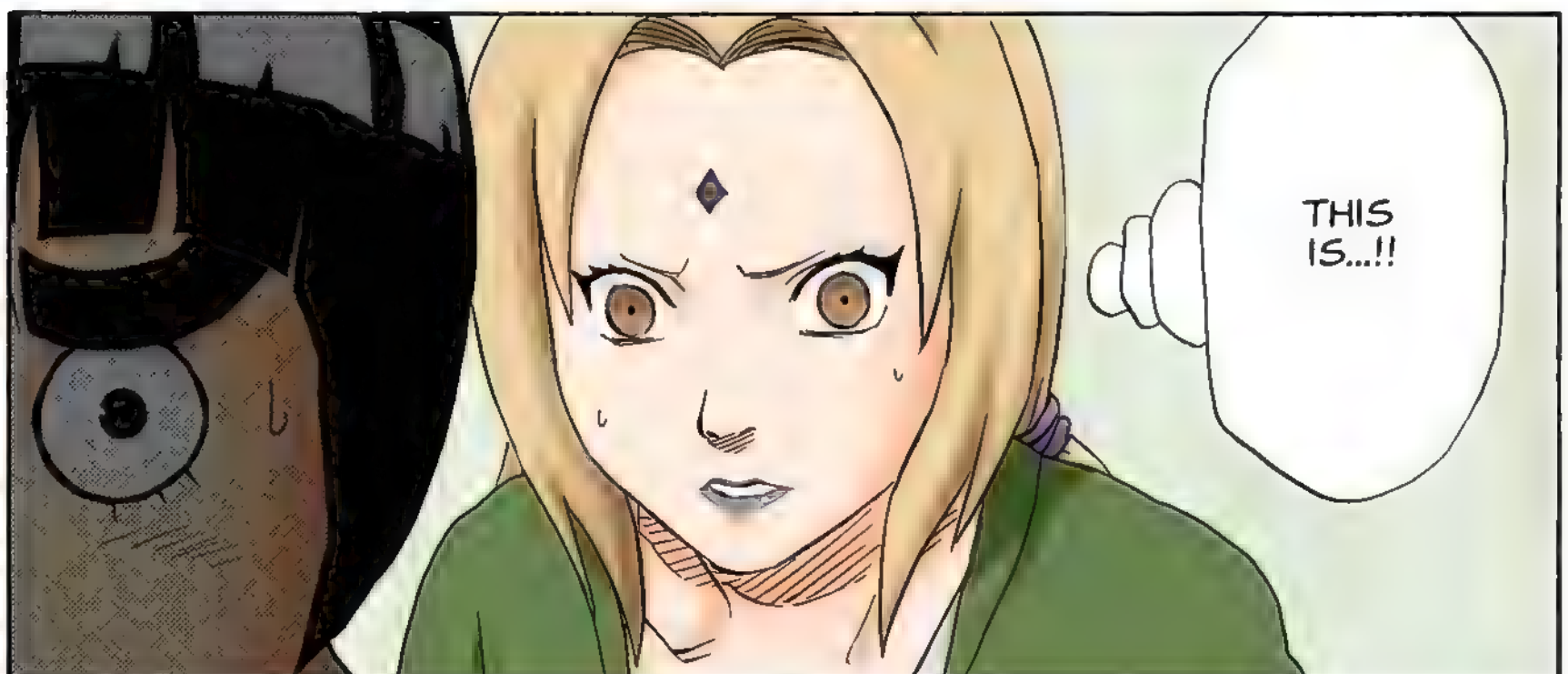
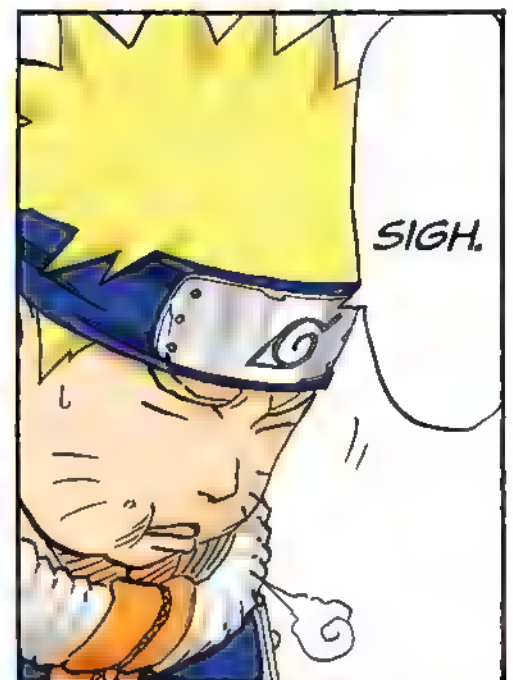
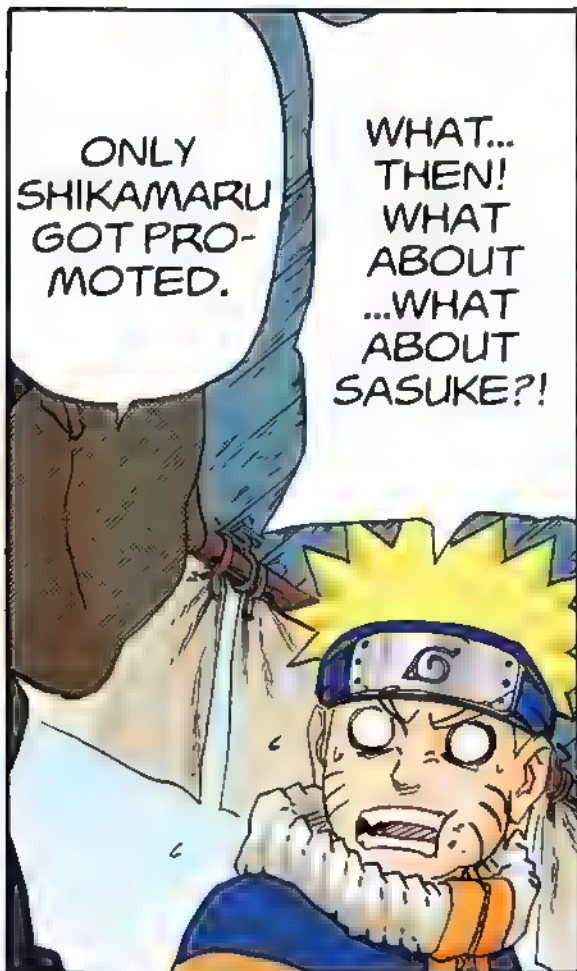






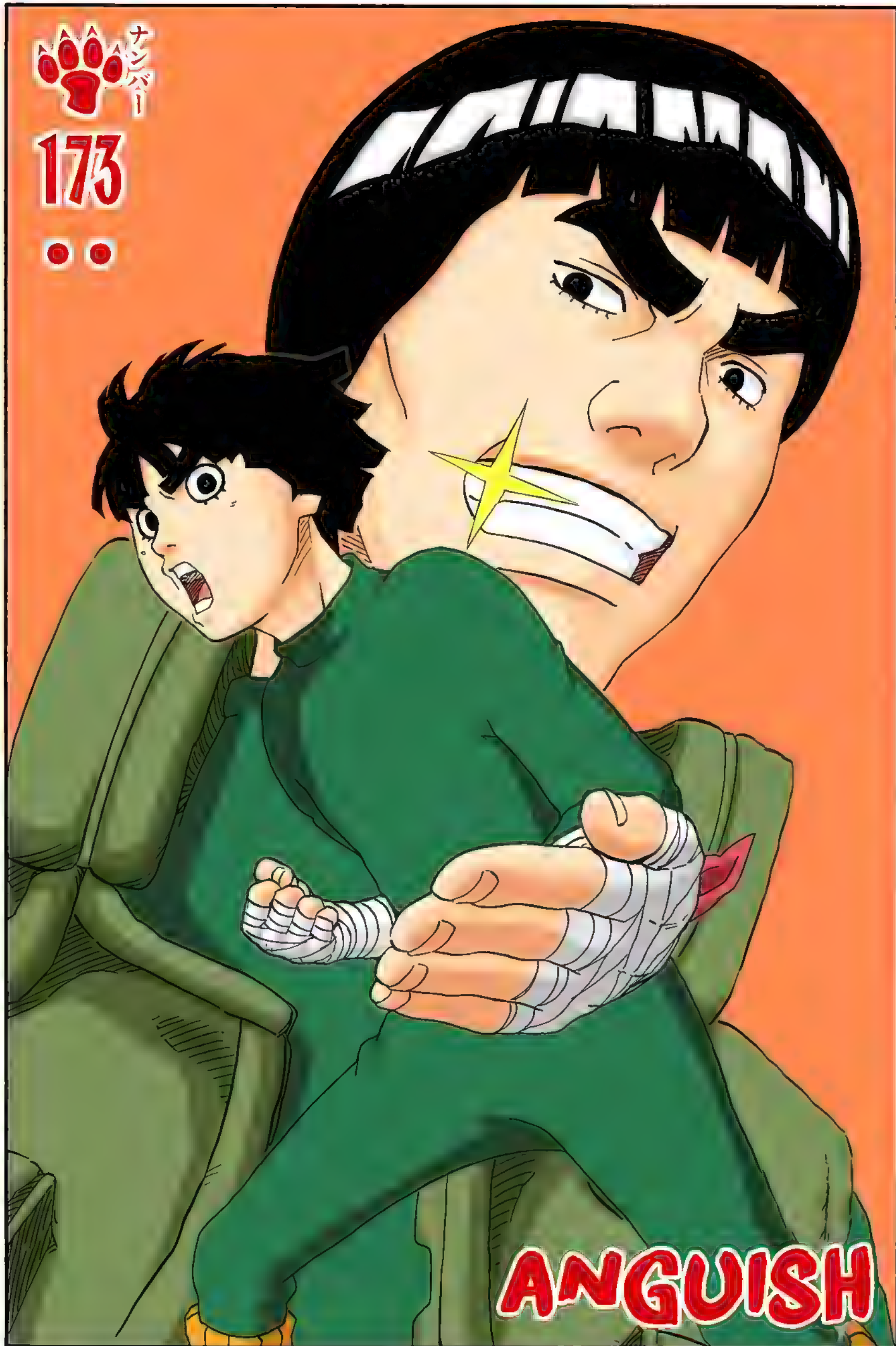




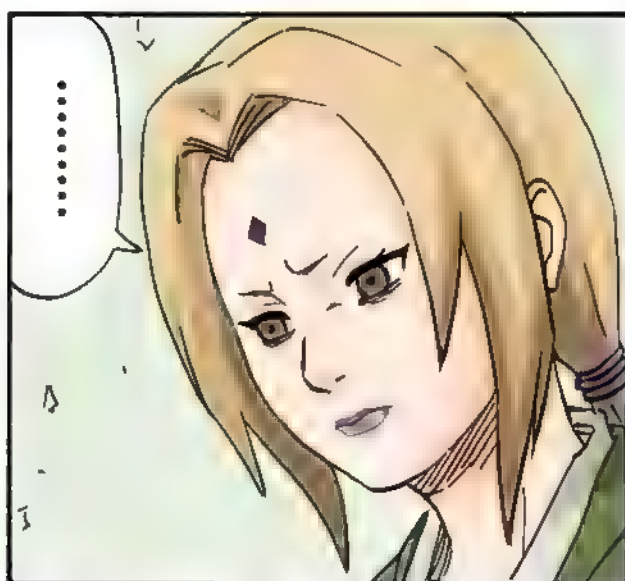
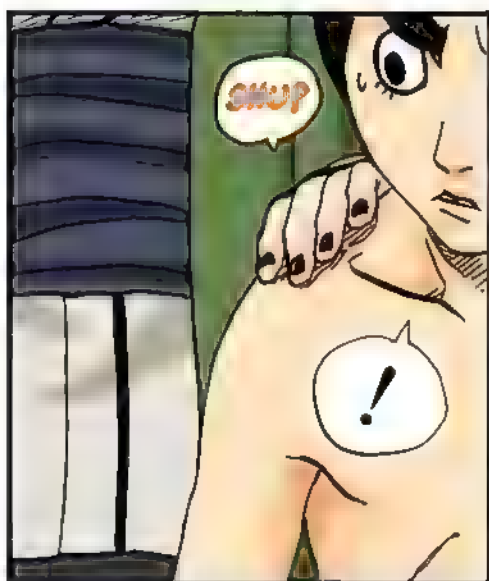
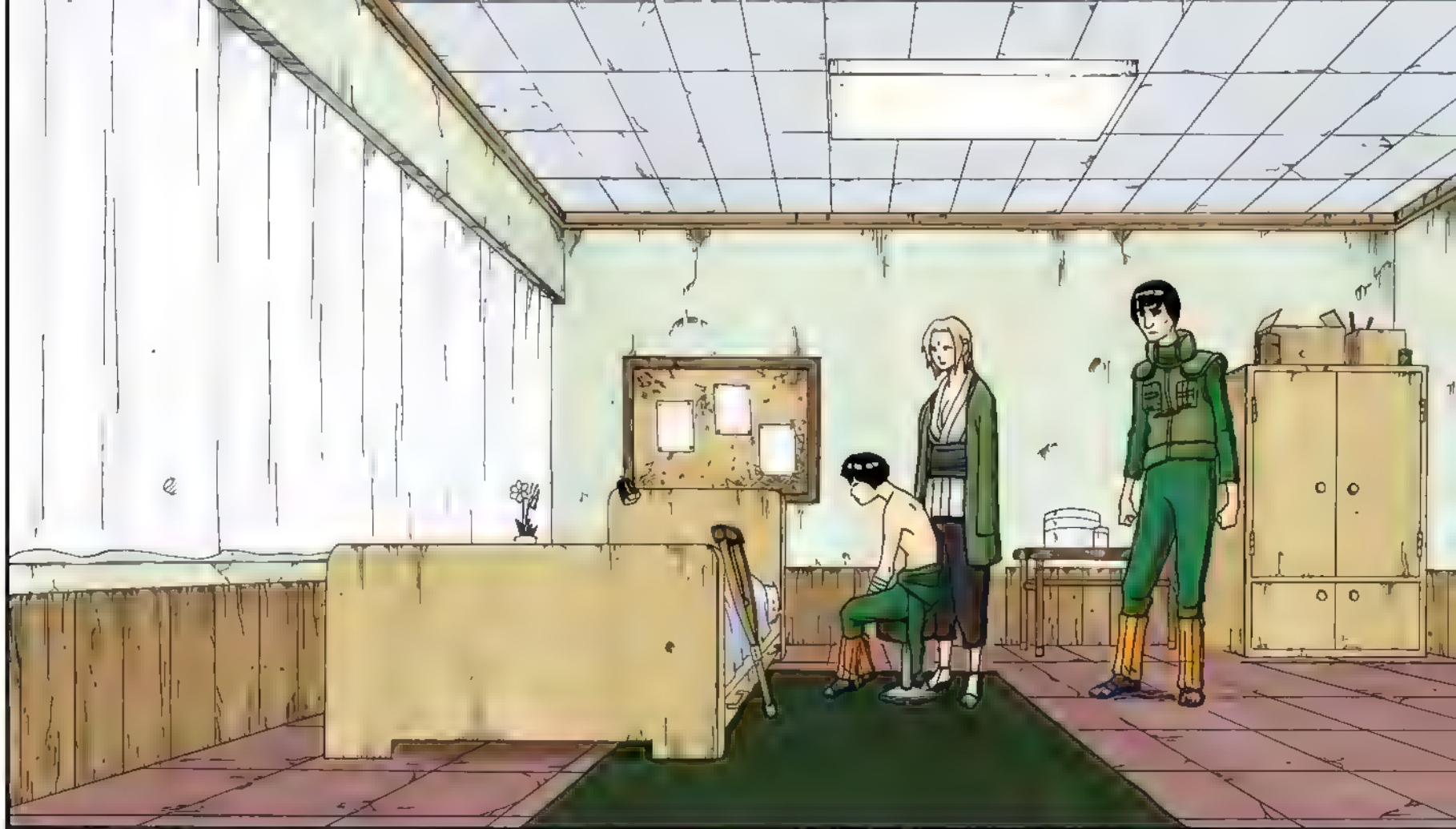


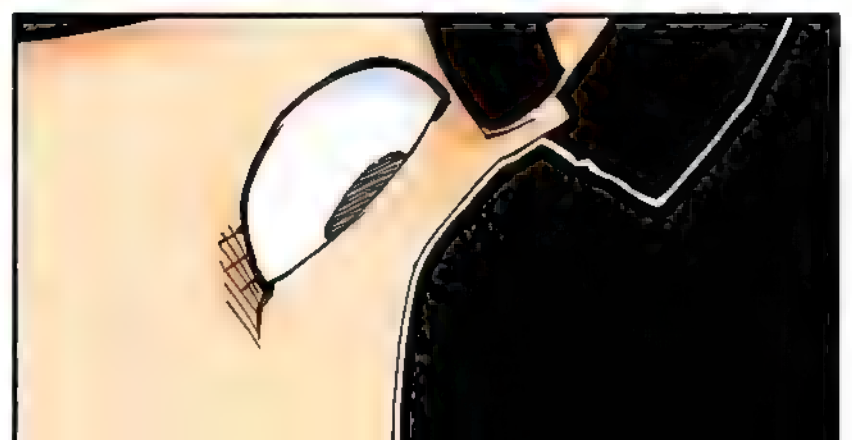
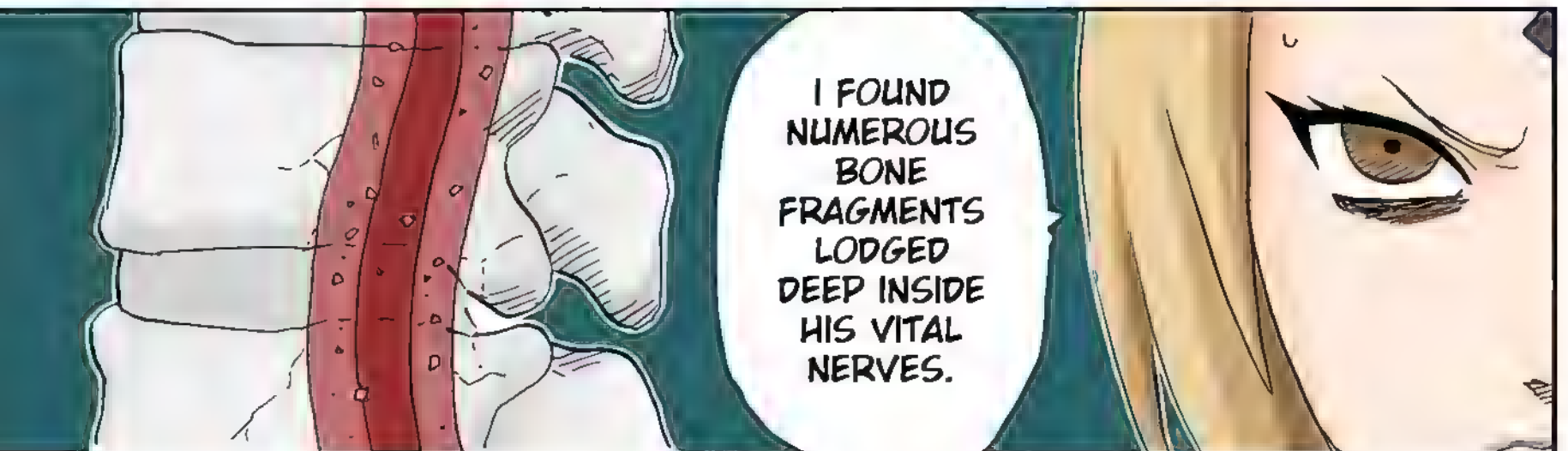


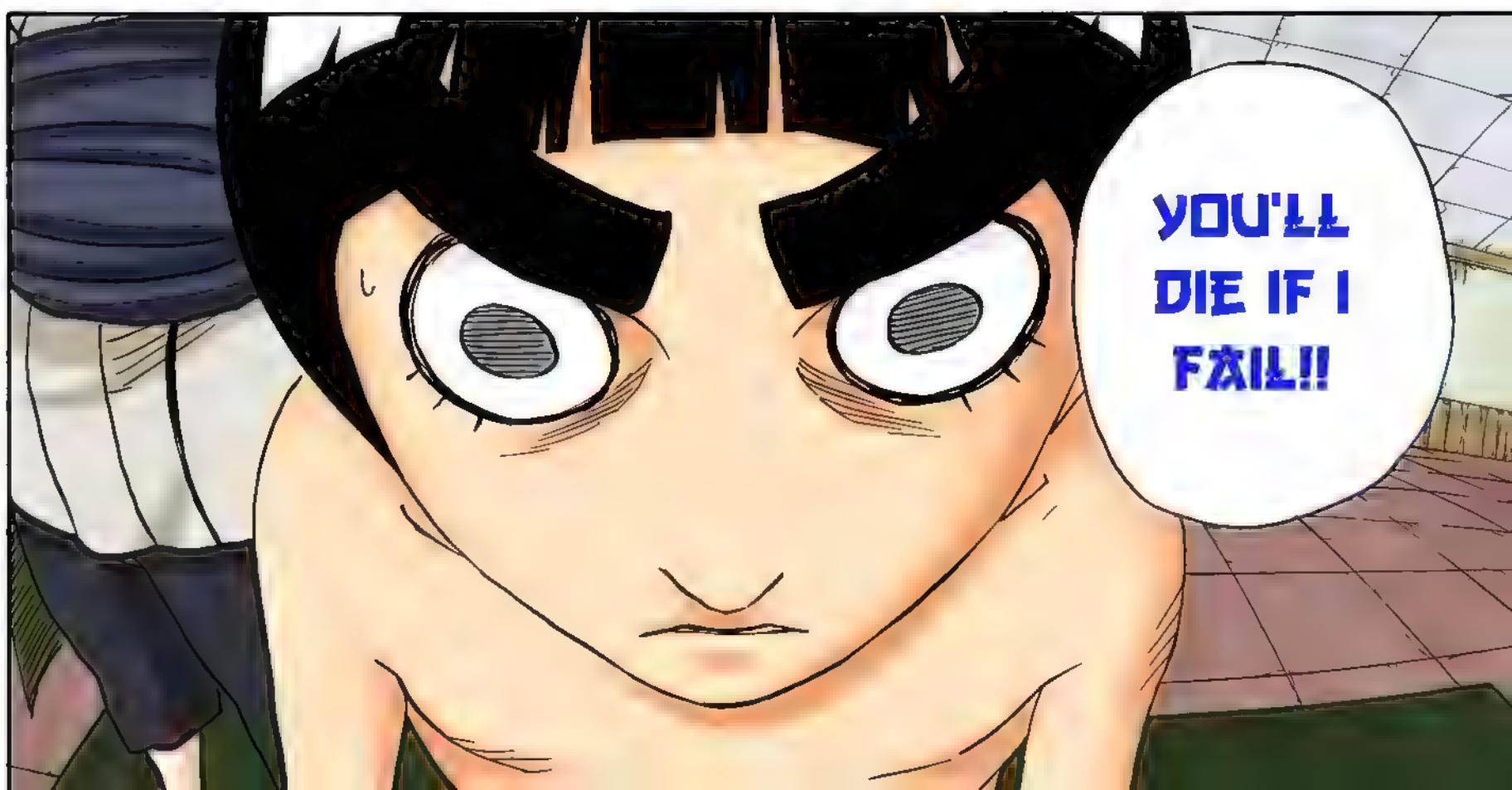
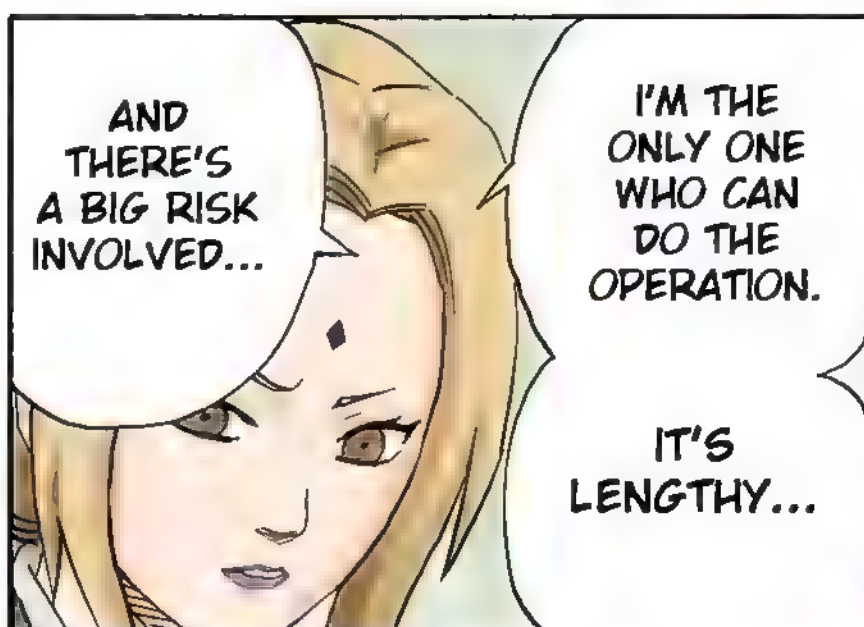
173

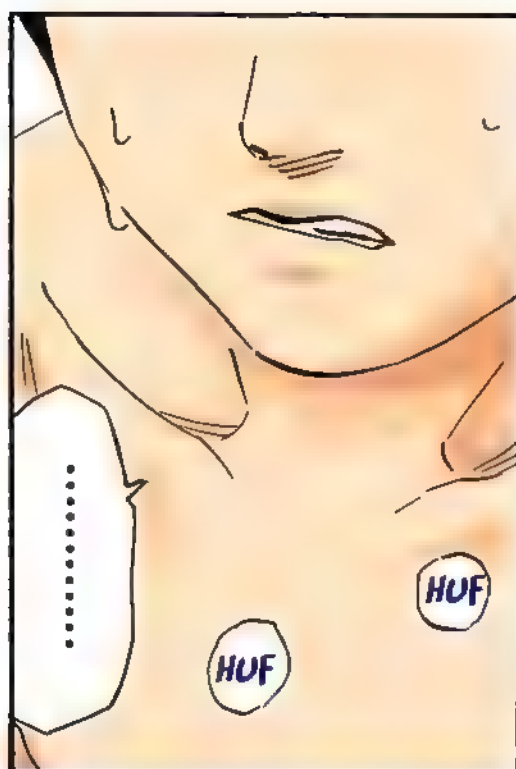


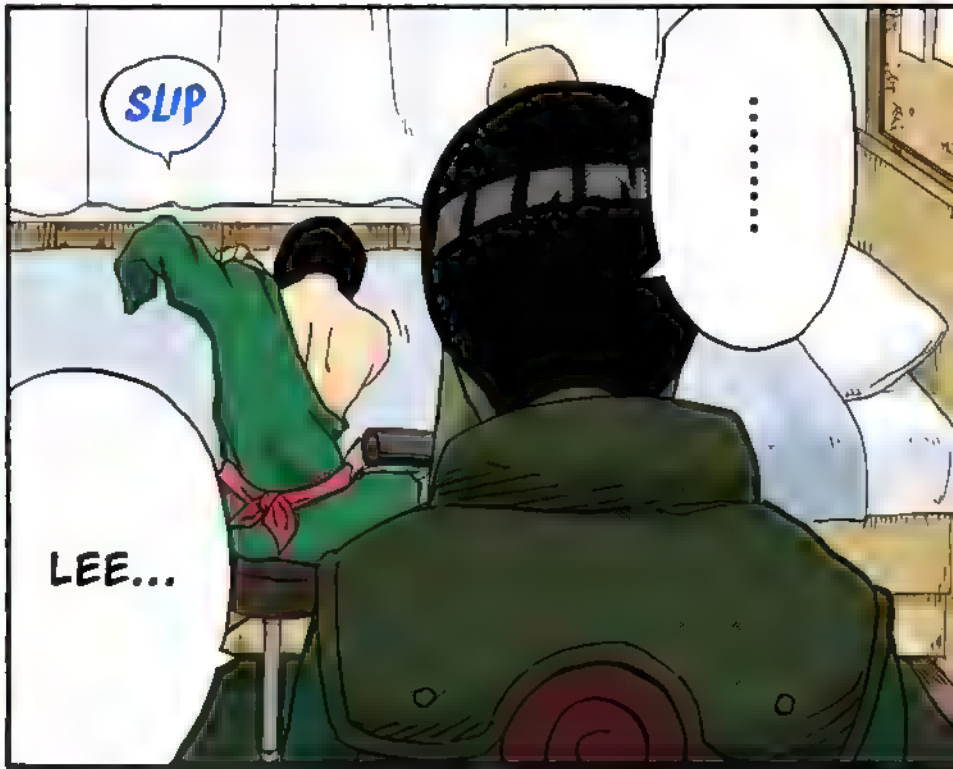
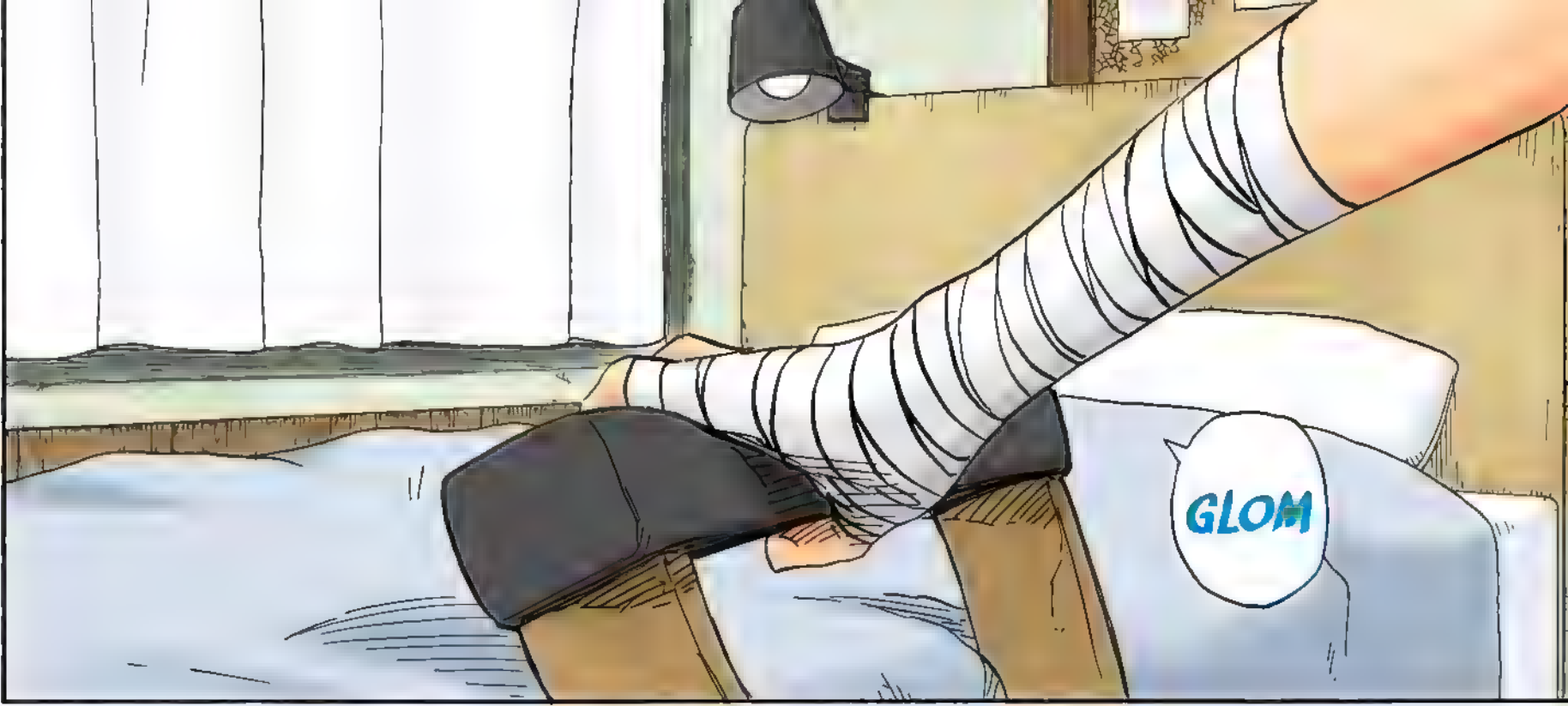
ANGUISH

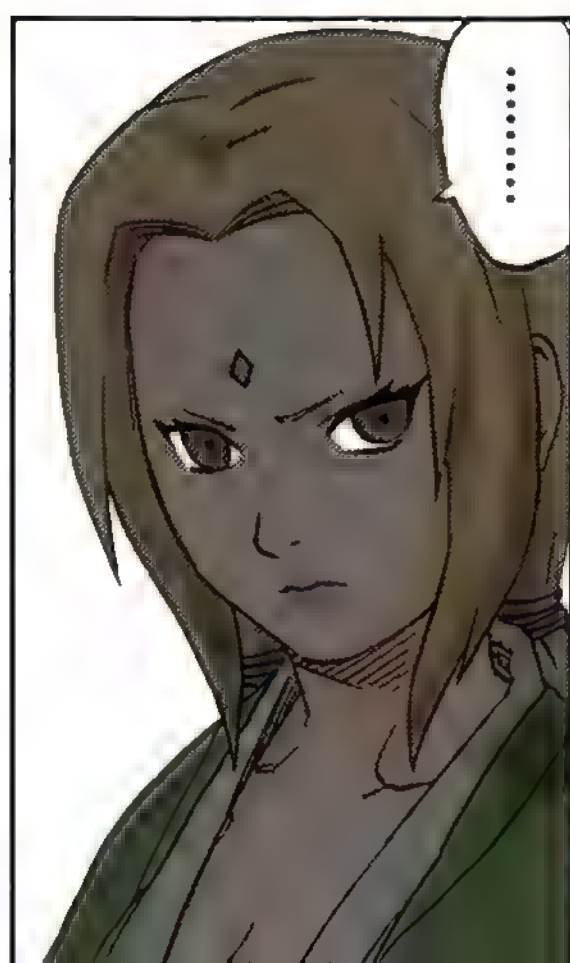


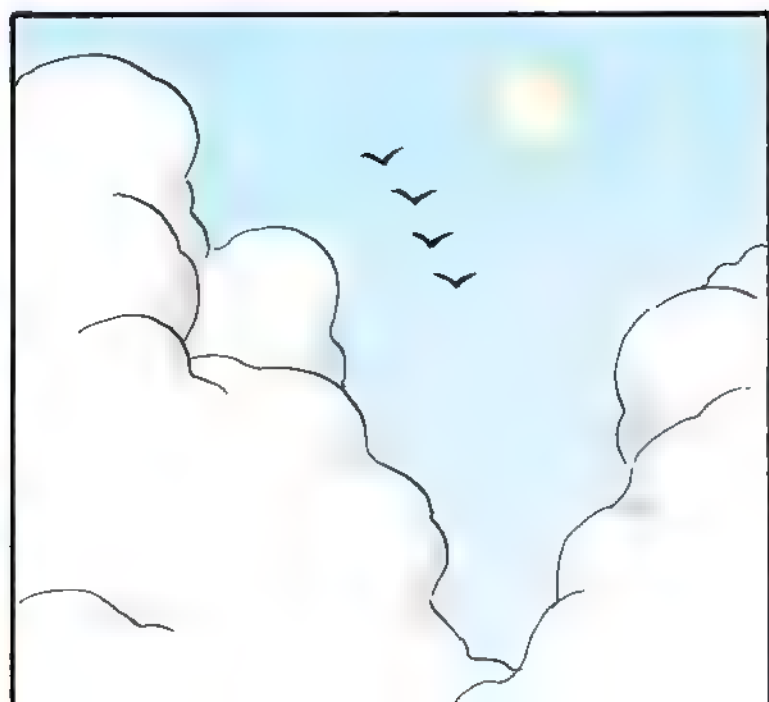
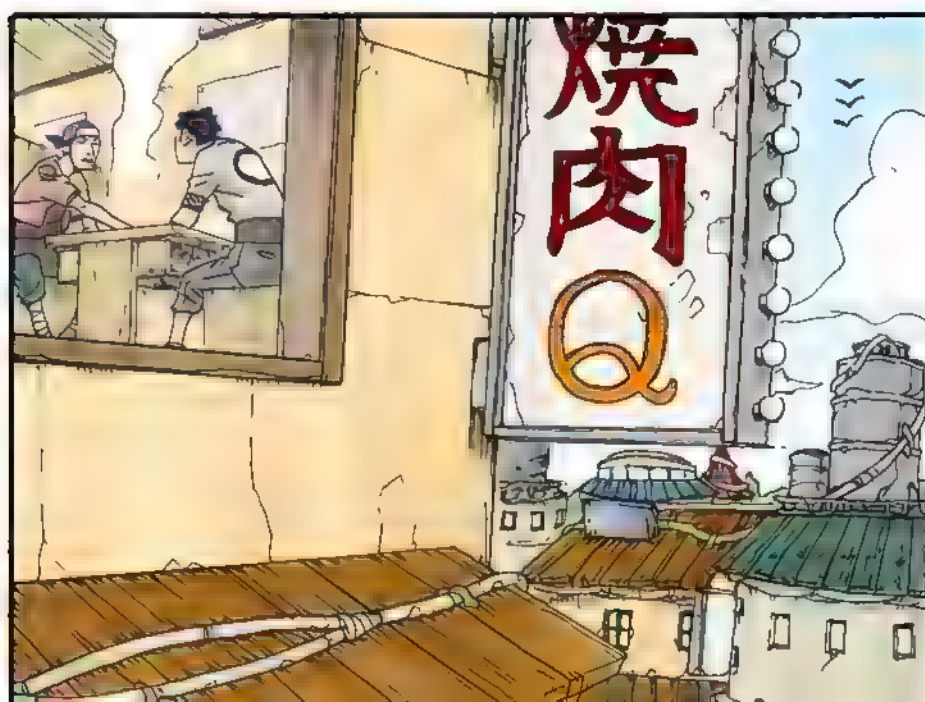
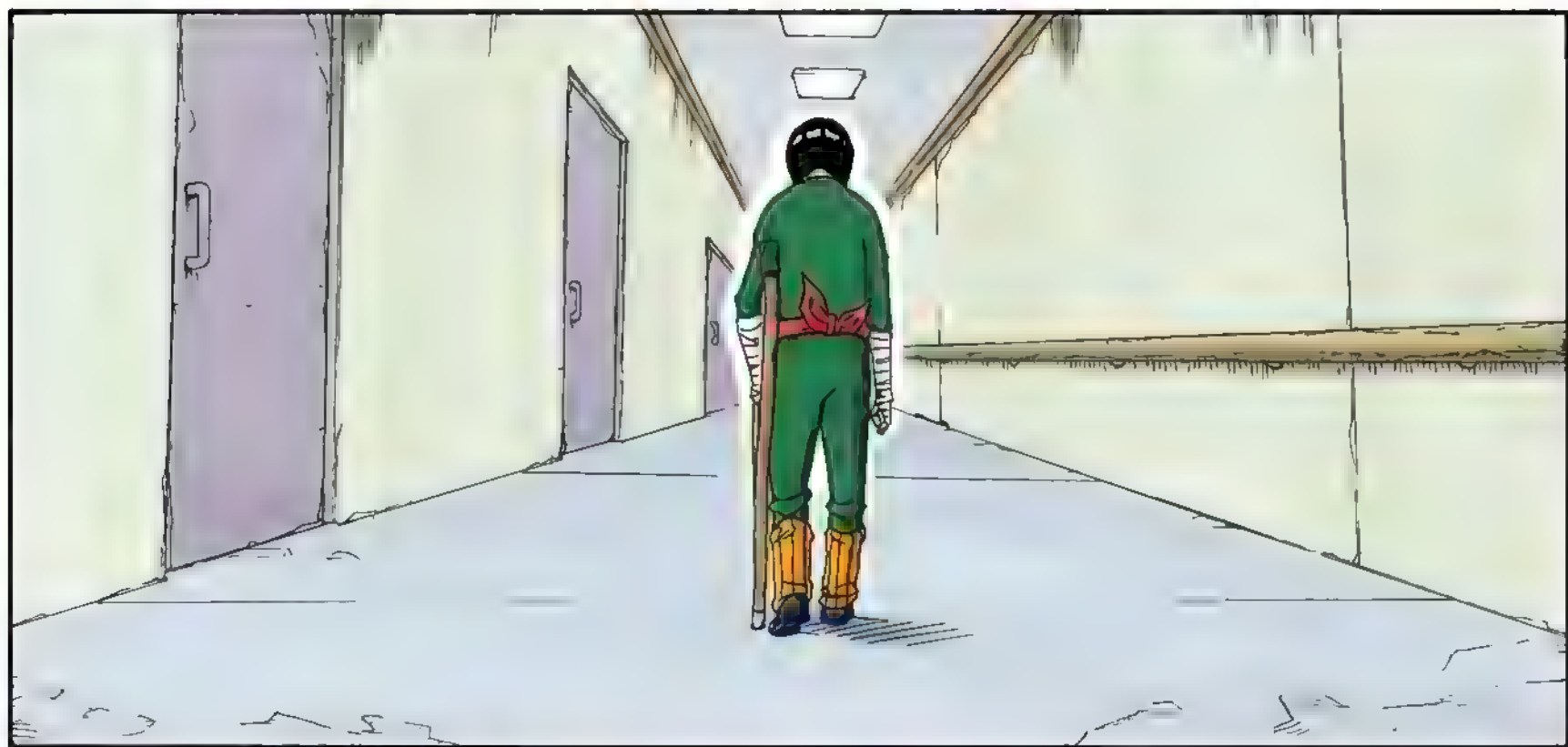
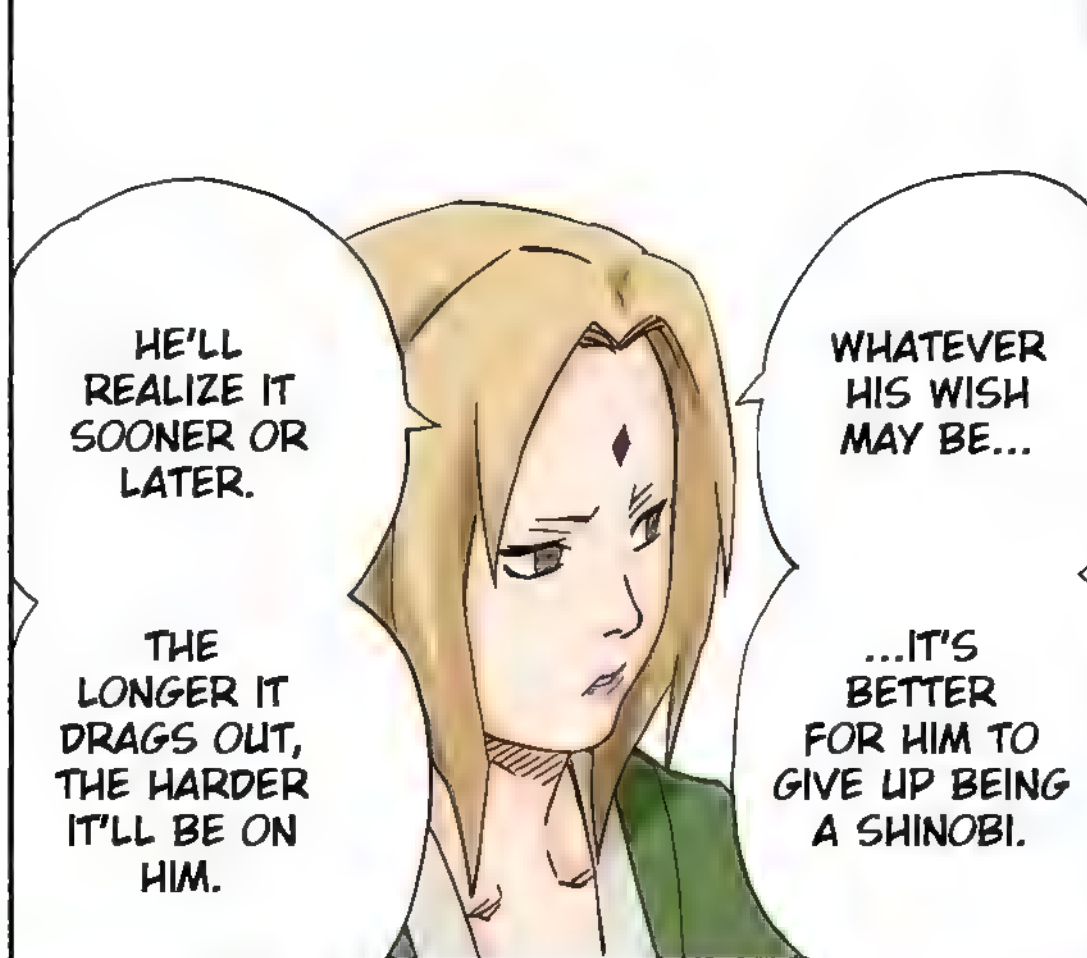












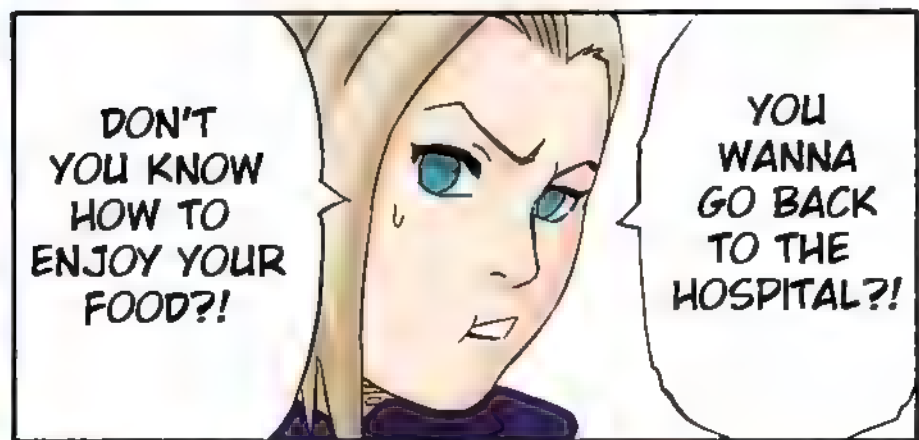


RELAX!
I KNOW HOW
TO STUFF
MYSELF AND
ENJOY IT
TOO!



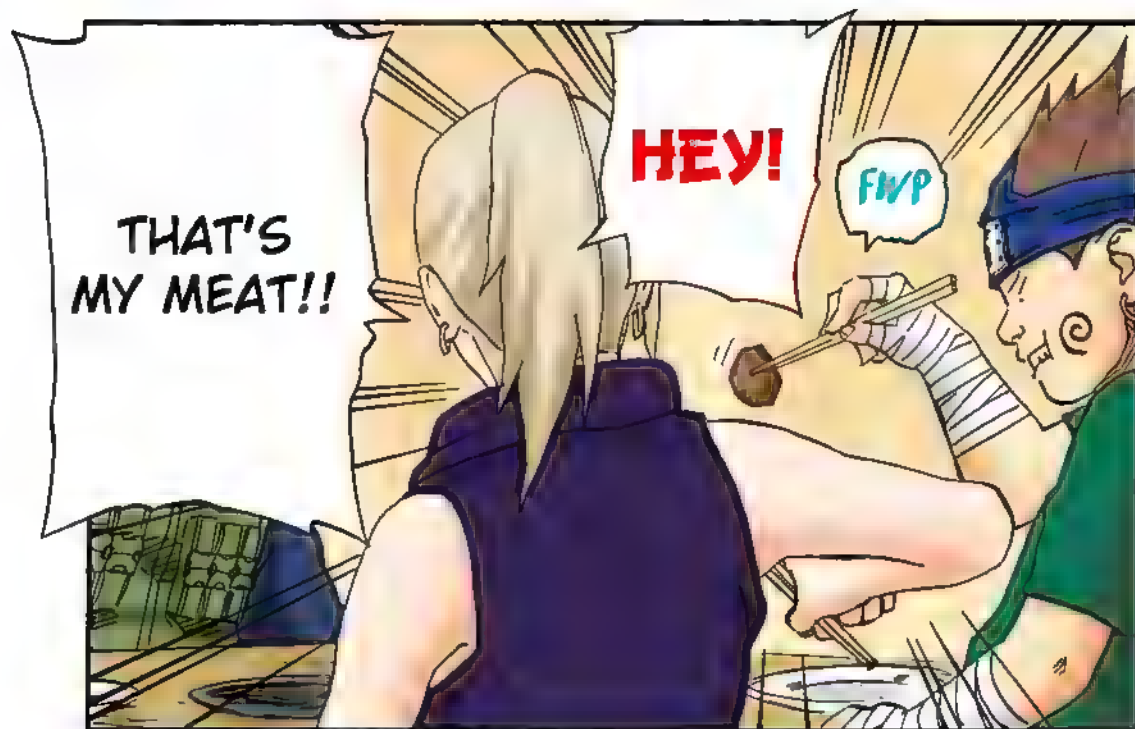
モウモウ

*CHOMP
*CHOMP



DON'T
YOU KNOW
HOW TO
ENJOY YOUR
FOOD?!

YOU
WANNA
GO BACK
TO THE
HOSPITAL?!



HEY!

FWP

THAT'S
MY MEAT!!



*SIZZLE

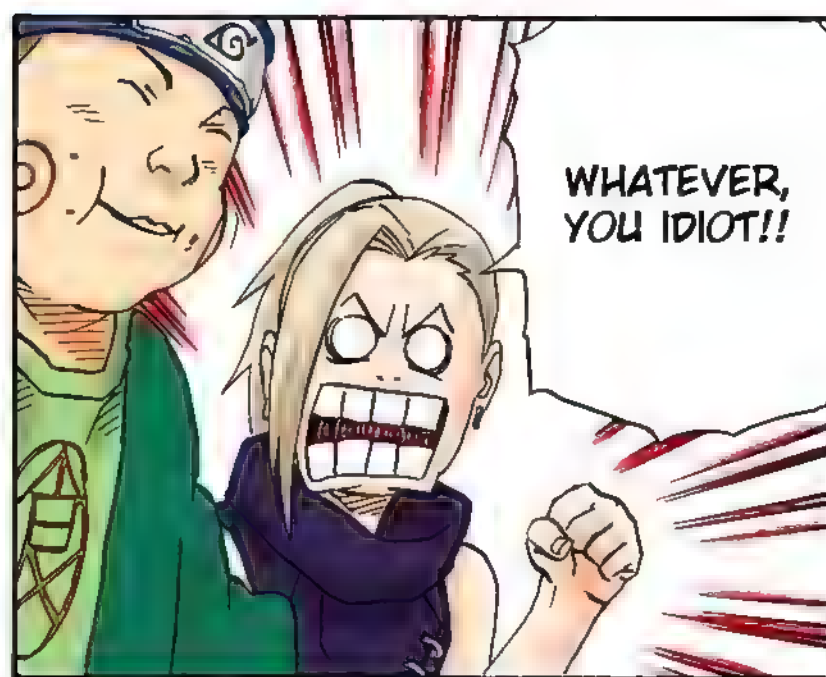
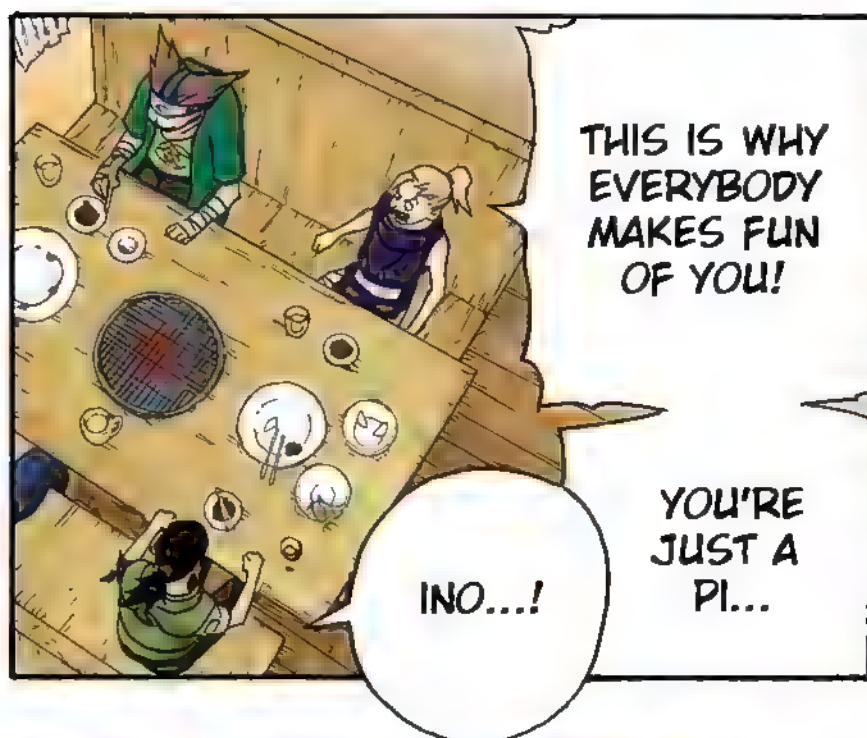
SNF

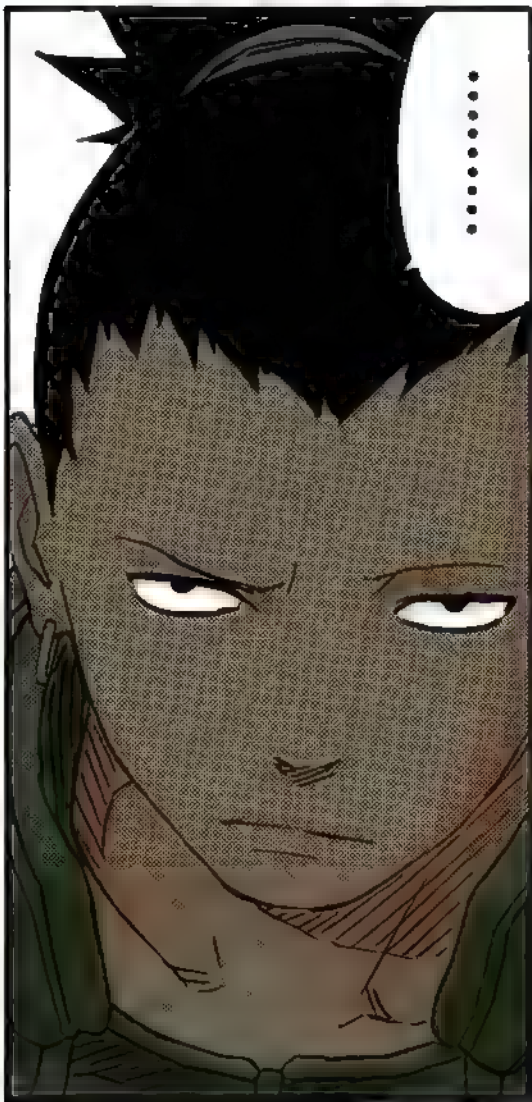
フユウウウ

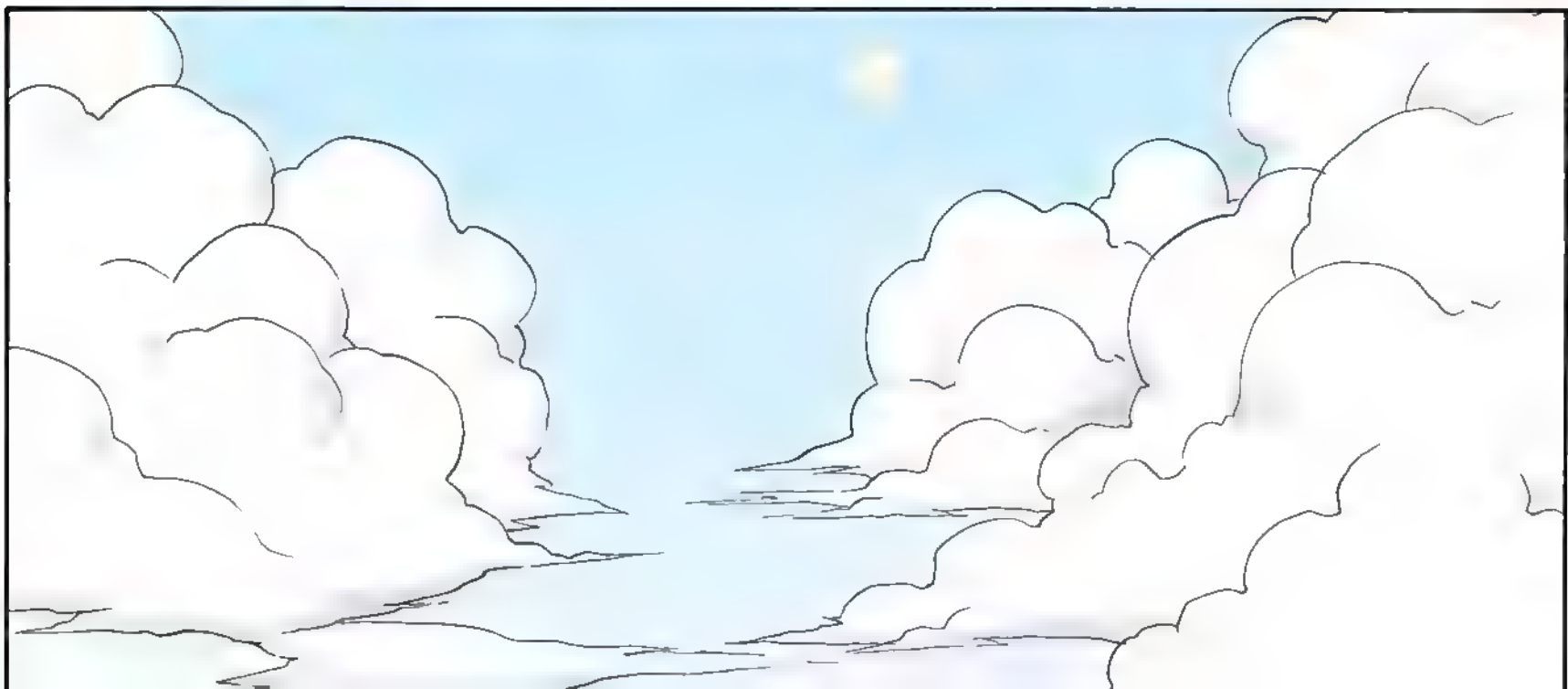


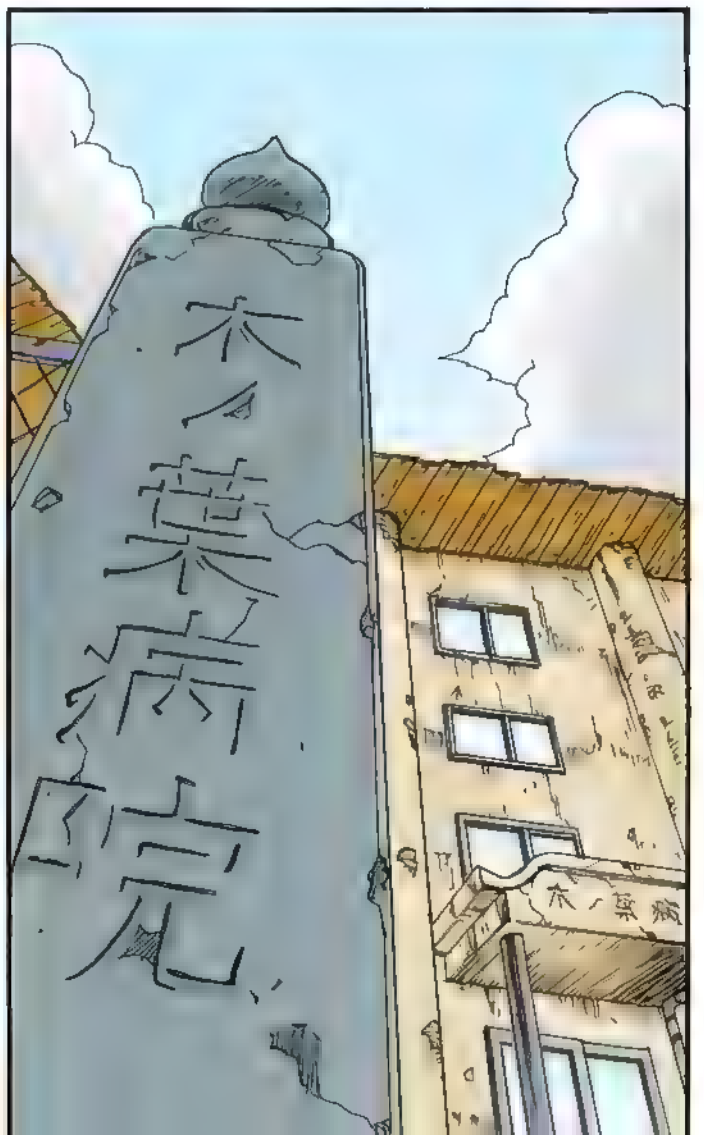
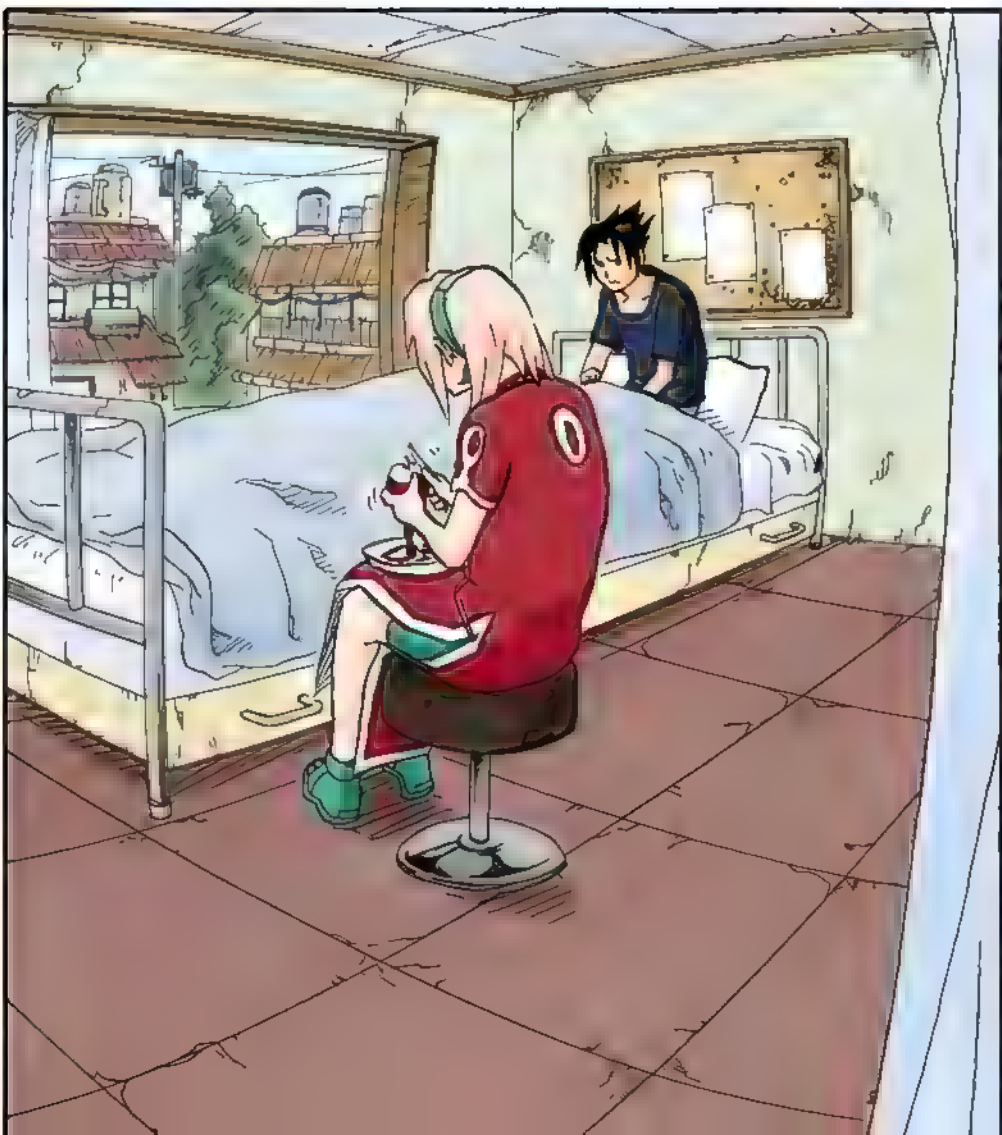
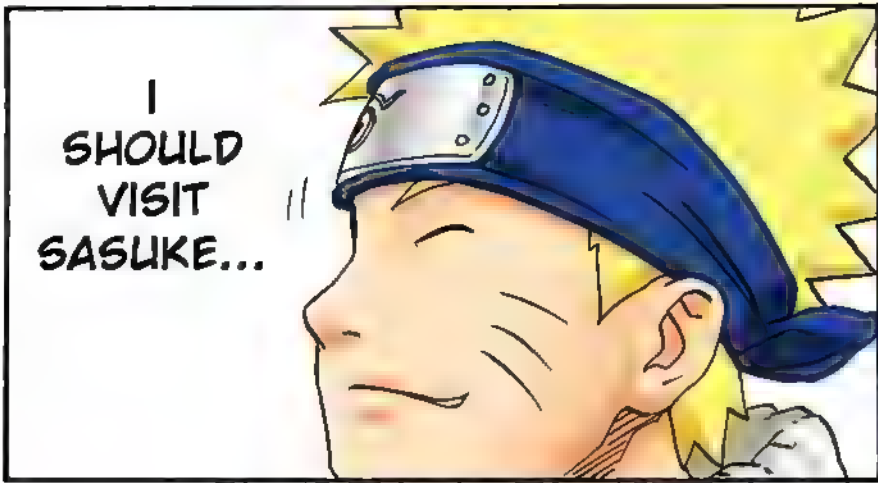
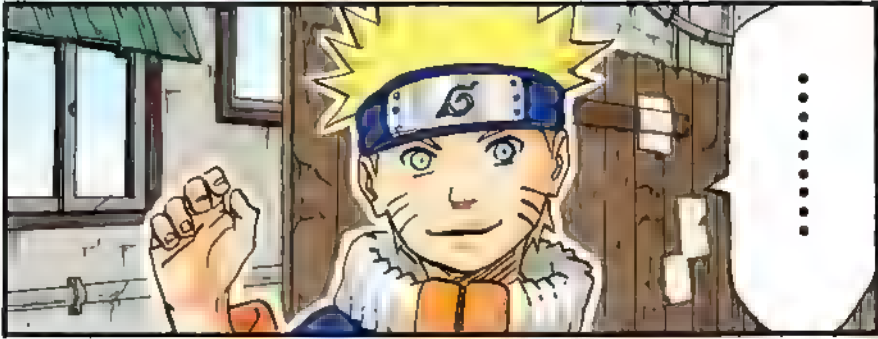
THIS
IS THE END,
AND THE MEAT
MOST WORTH
ENJOYING!

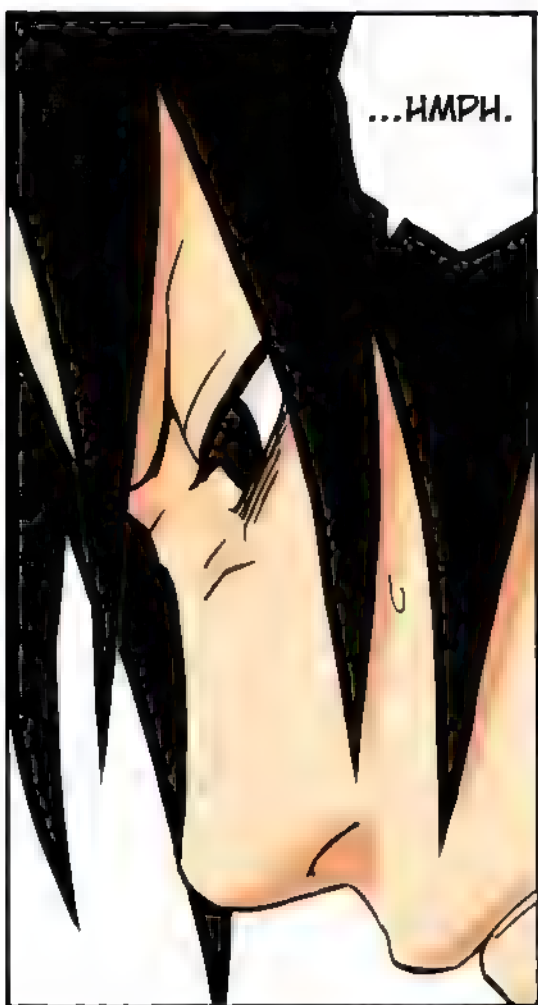
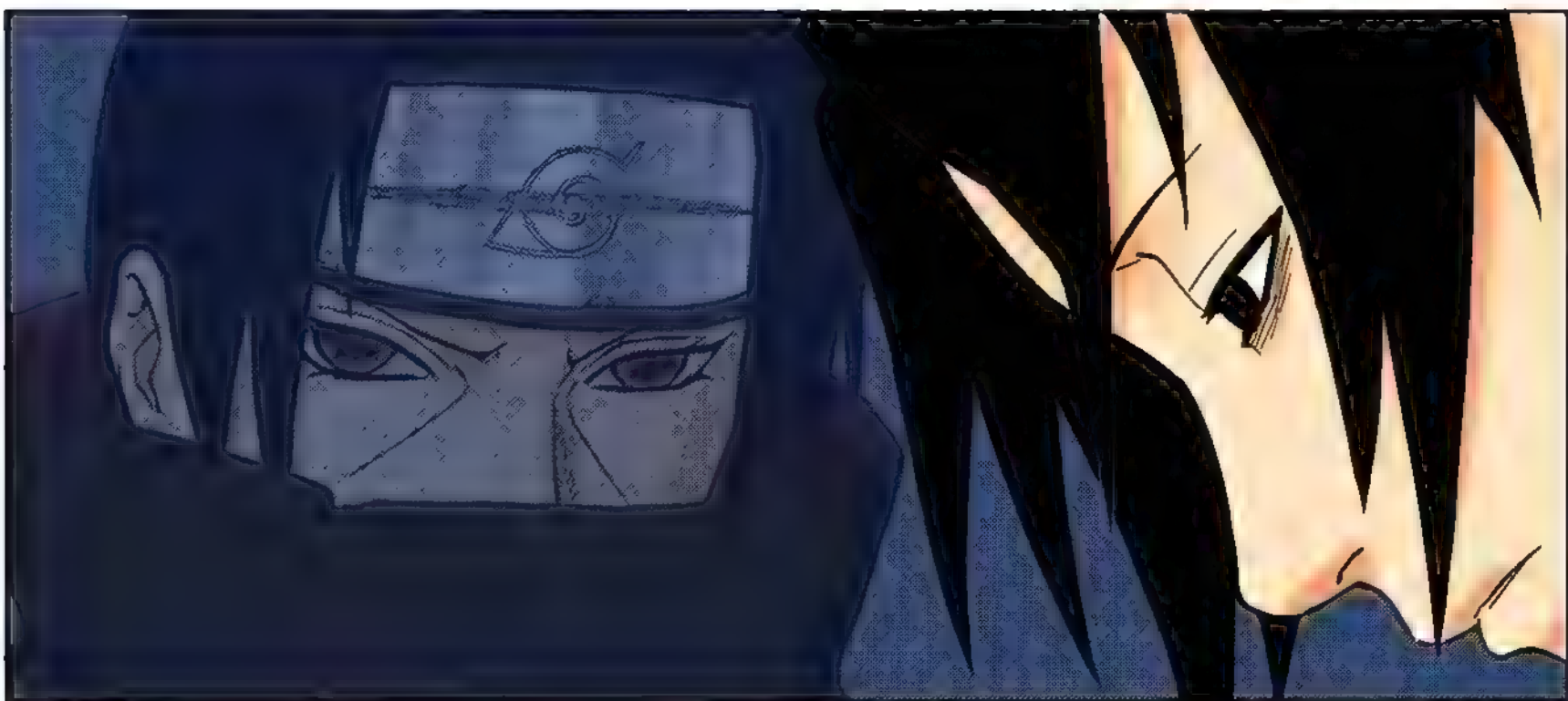
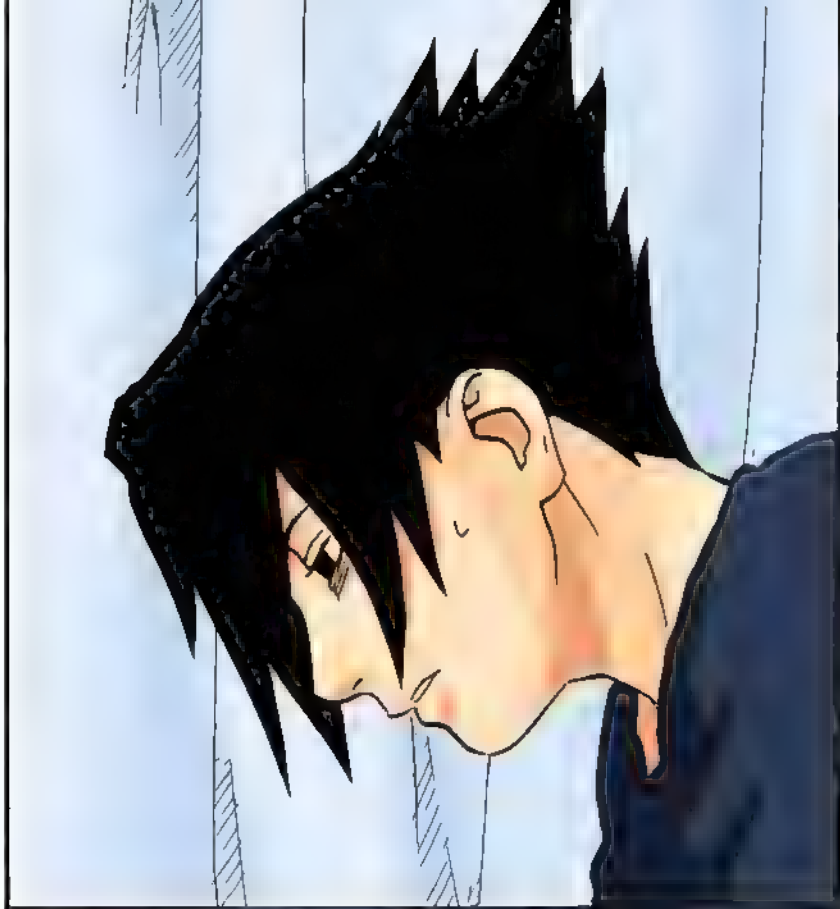
THE
LAST
PIECE!

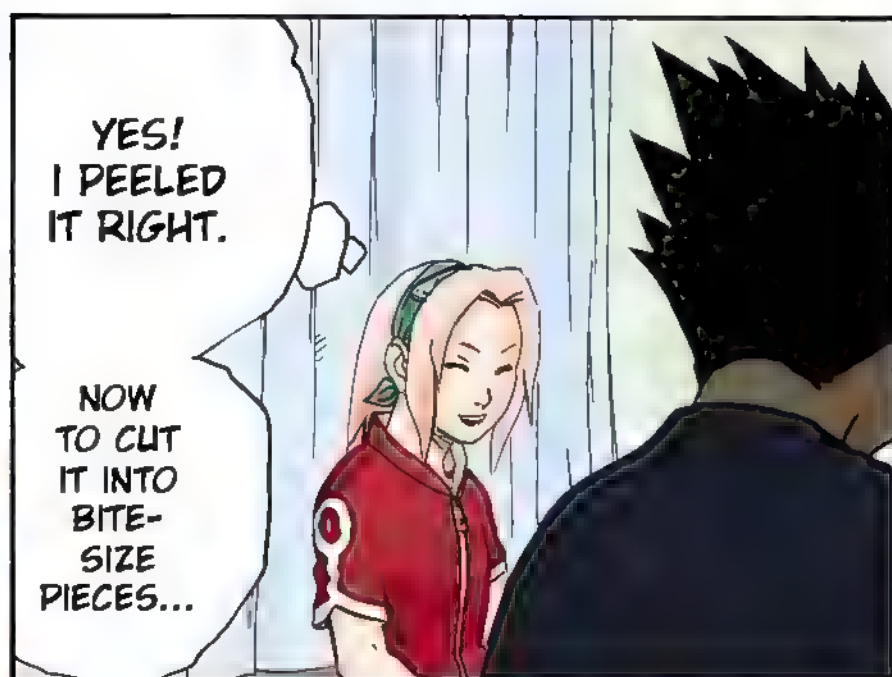
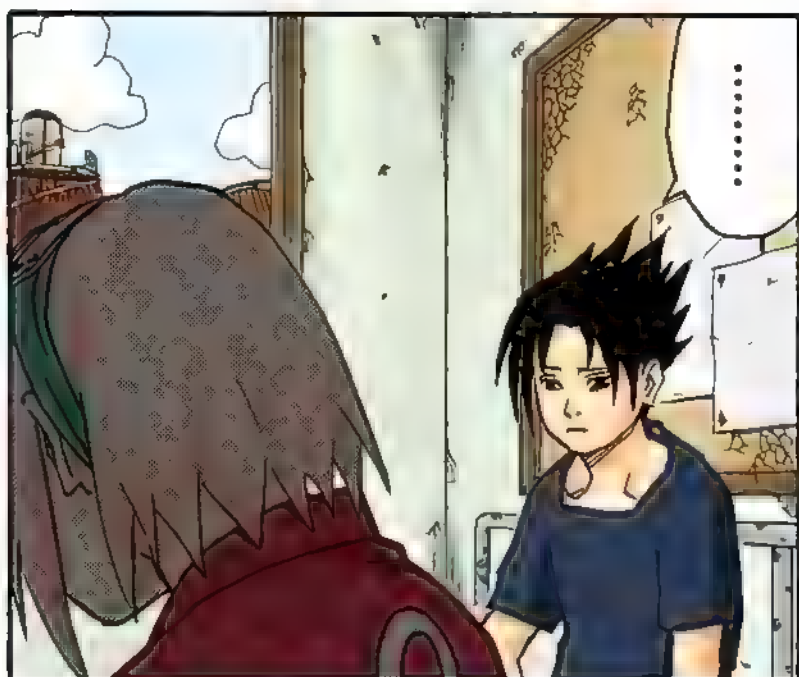






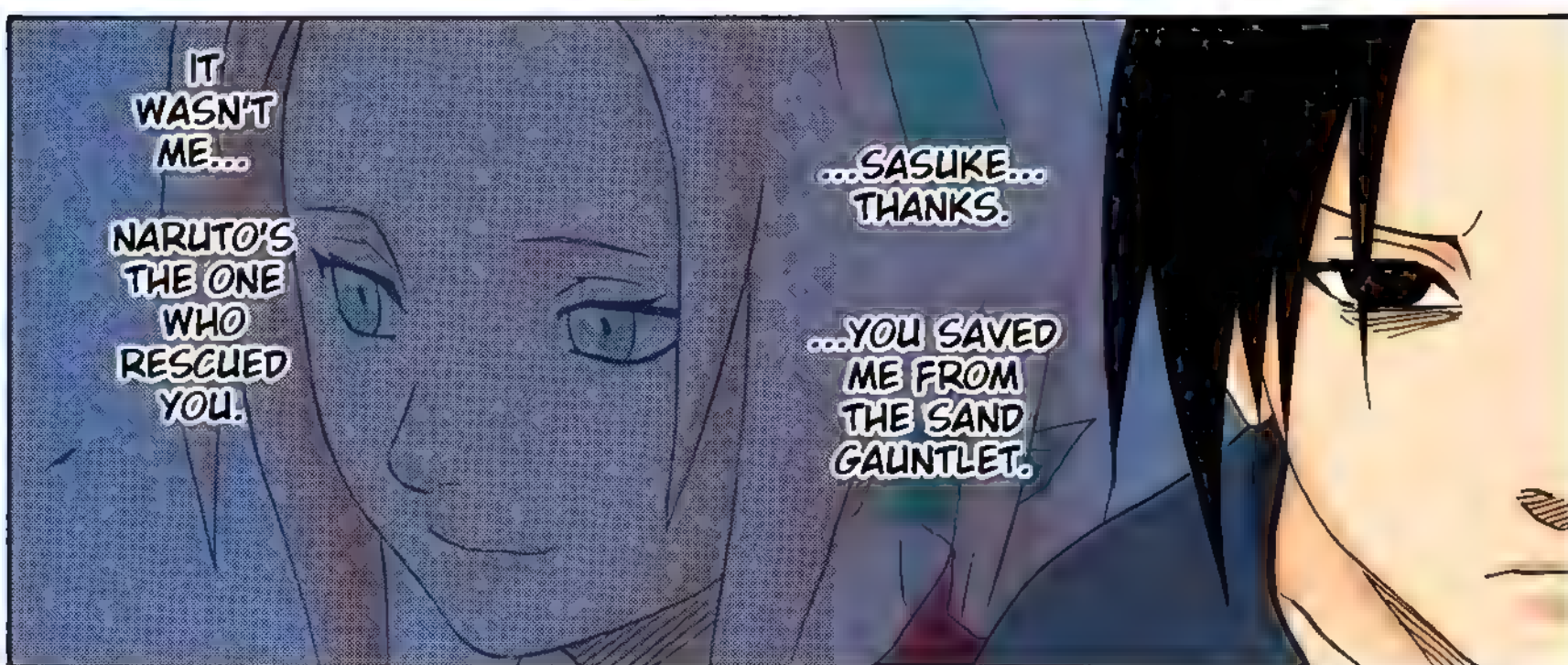






YES!
I PEELED
IT RIGHT.

NOW
TO CUT
IT INTO
BITE-
SIZE
PIECES...



IT
WASN'T
ME...

NARUTO'S
THE ONE
WHO
RESCUED
YOU.

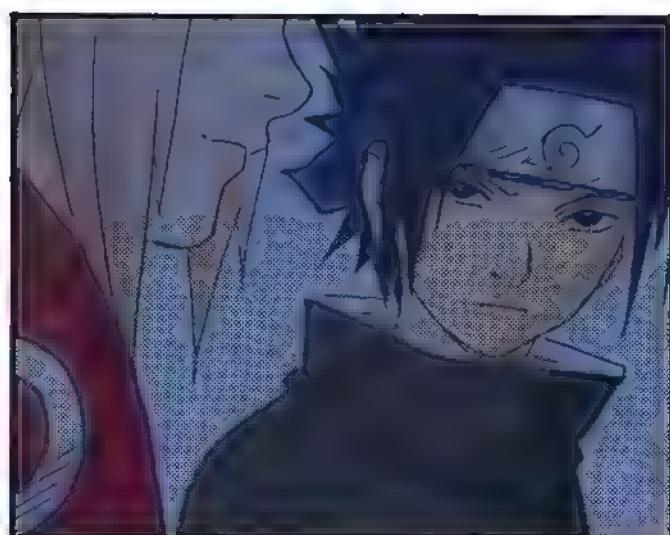
...SASUKE...
THANKS.

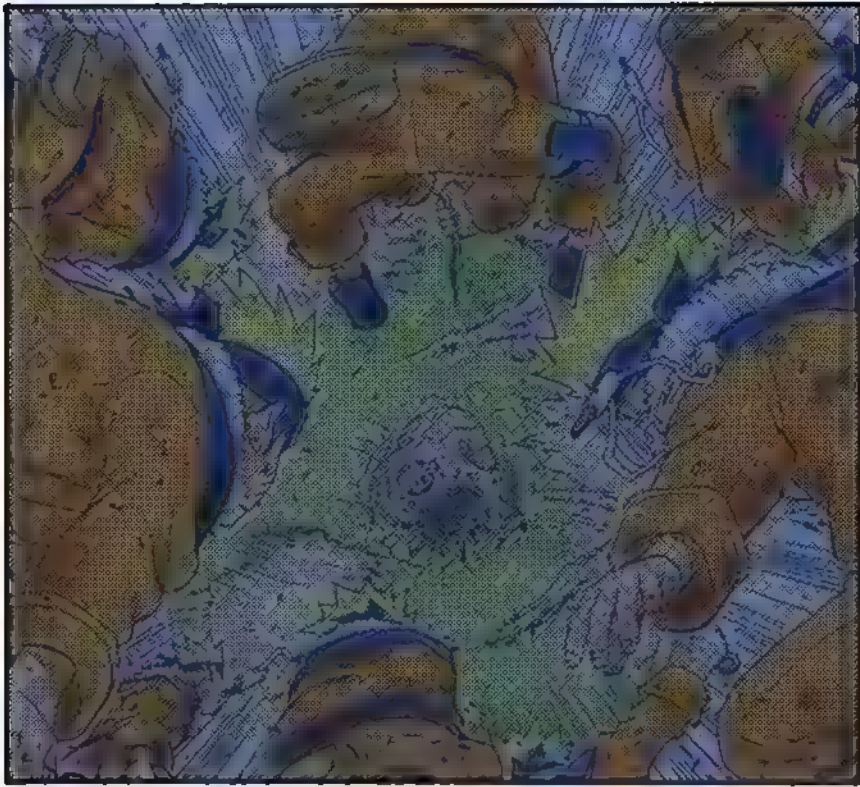
...YOU SAVED
ME FROM
THE SAND
GAUNTLET.



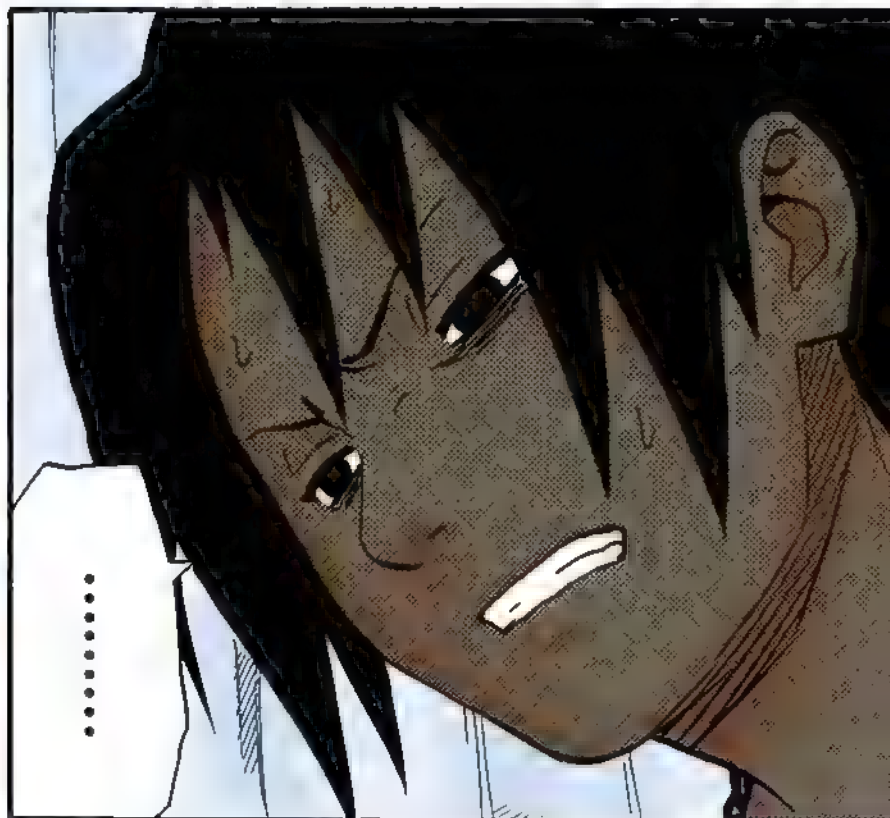
EVEN
SHOWING A
STRENGTH THAT
I'VE NEVER
SEEN FROM
HIM BEFORE.

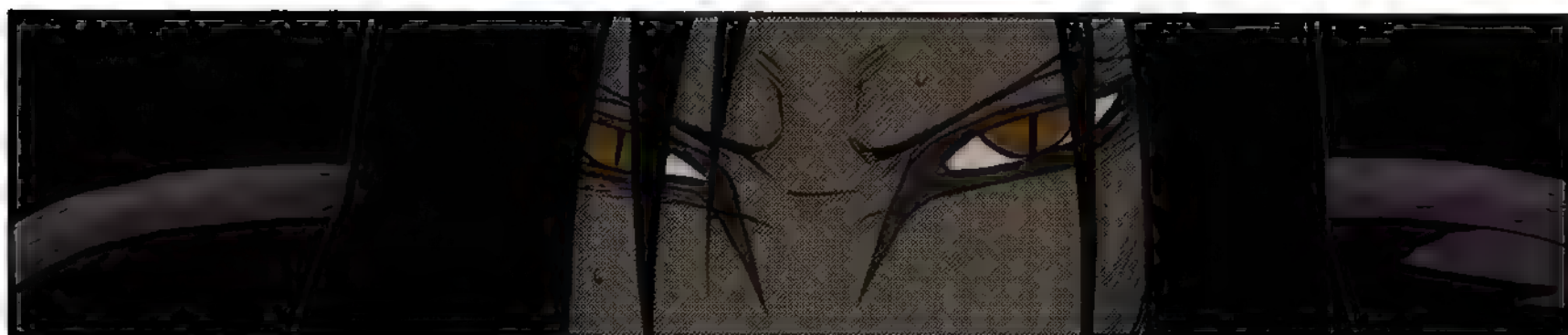
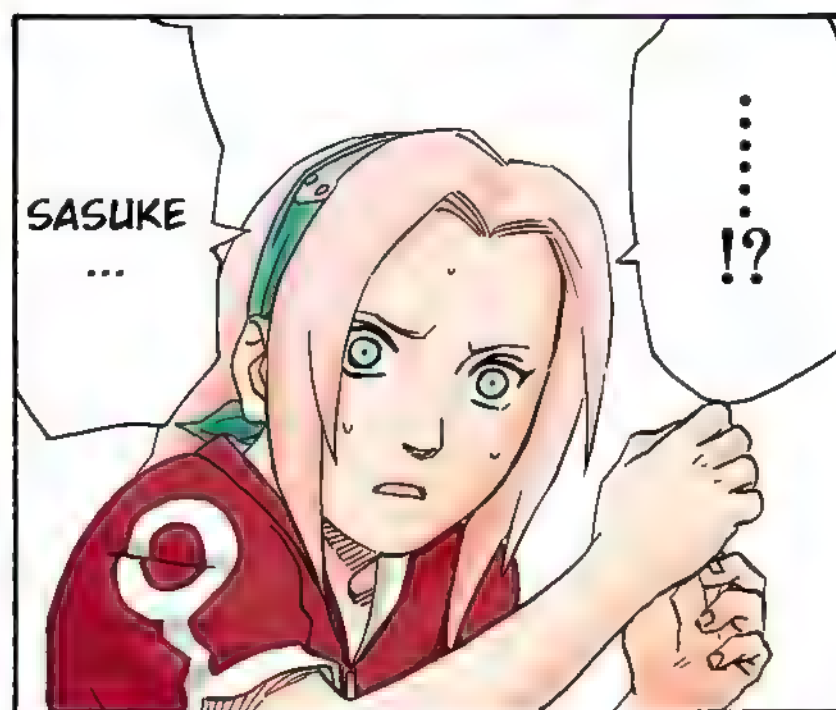
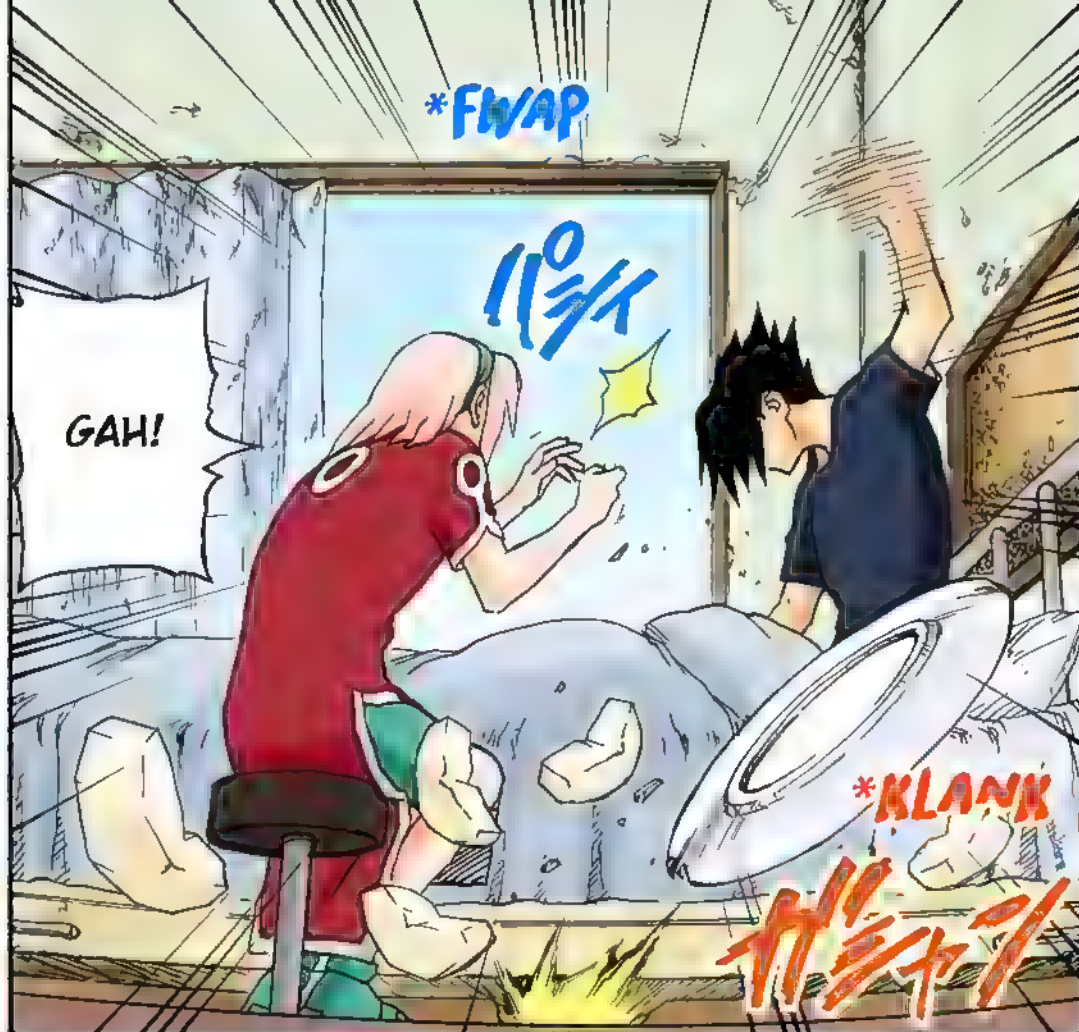
HE
FOUGHT
DESPERATELY
IN ORDER TO
SAVE YOU.





NARUTO...

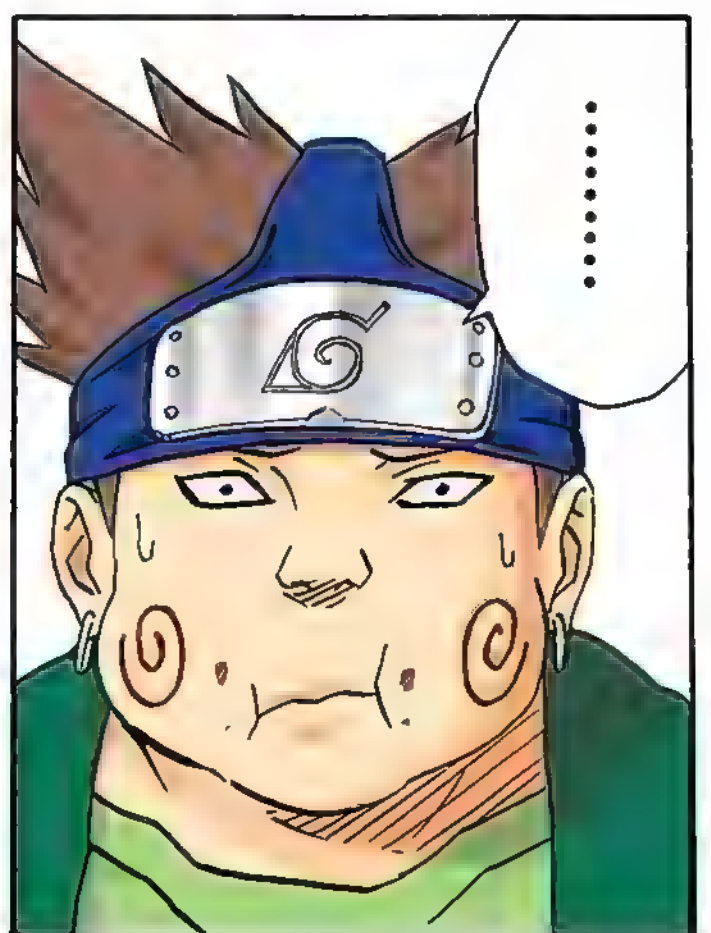






TO
KONOHA.

THE
TIME IS
NOW...

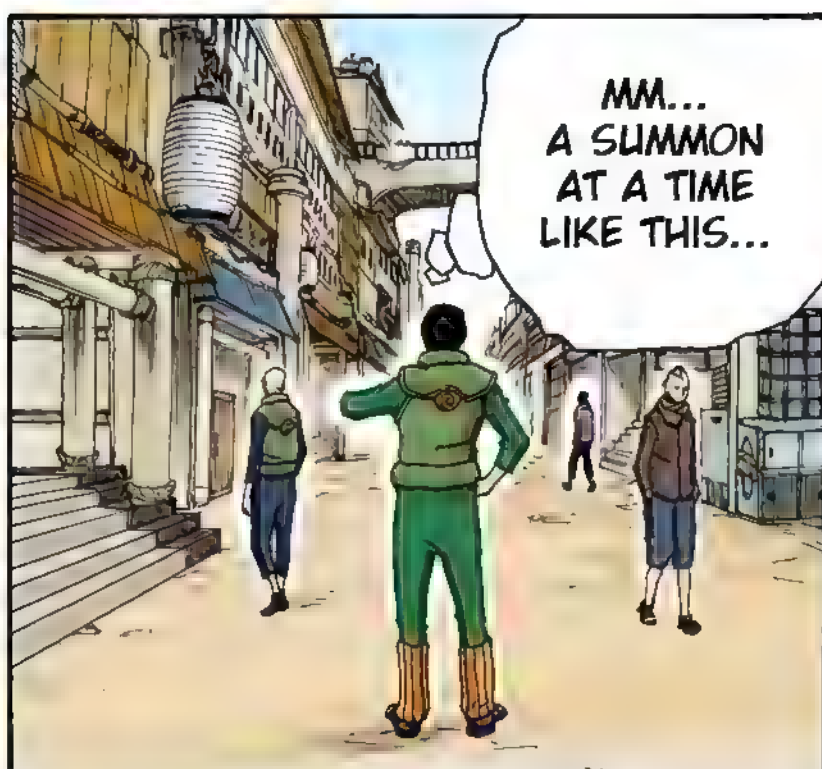


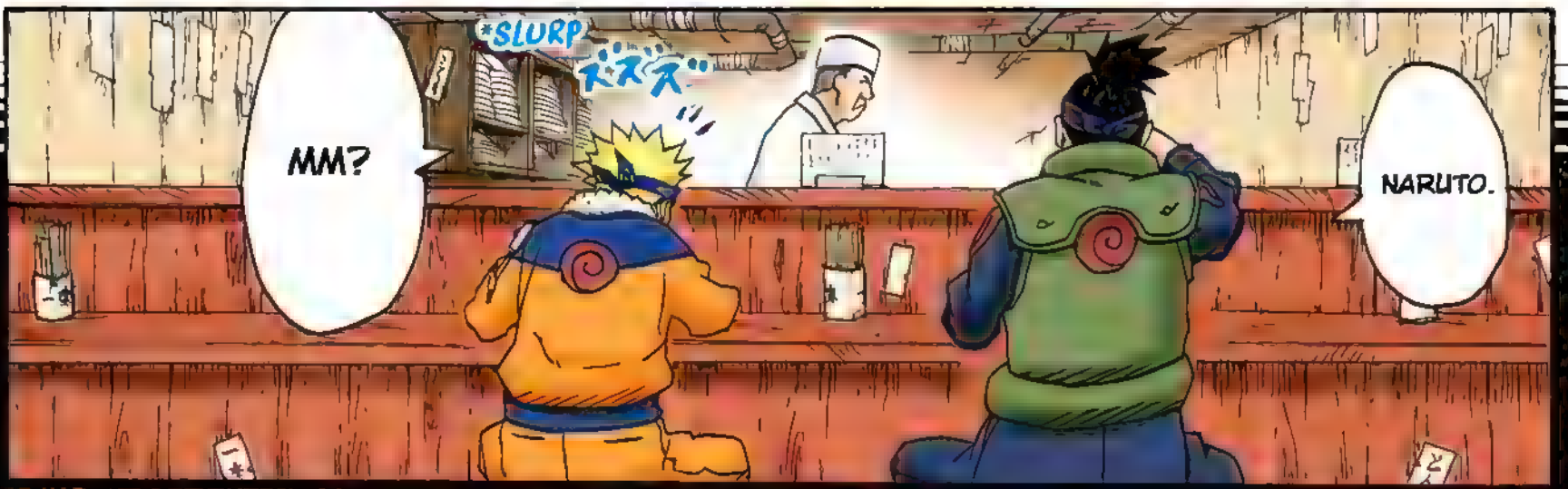
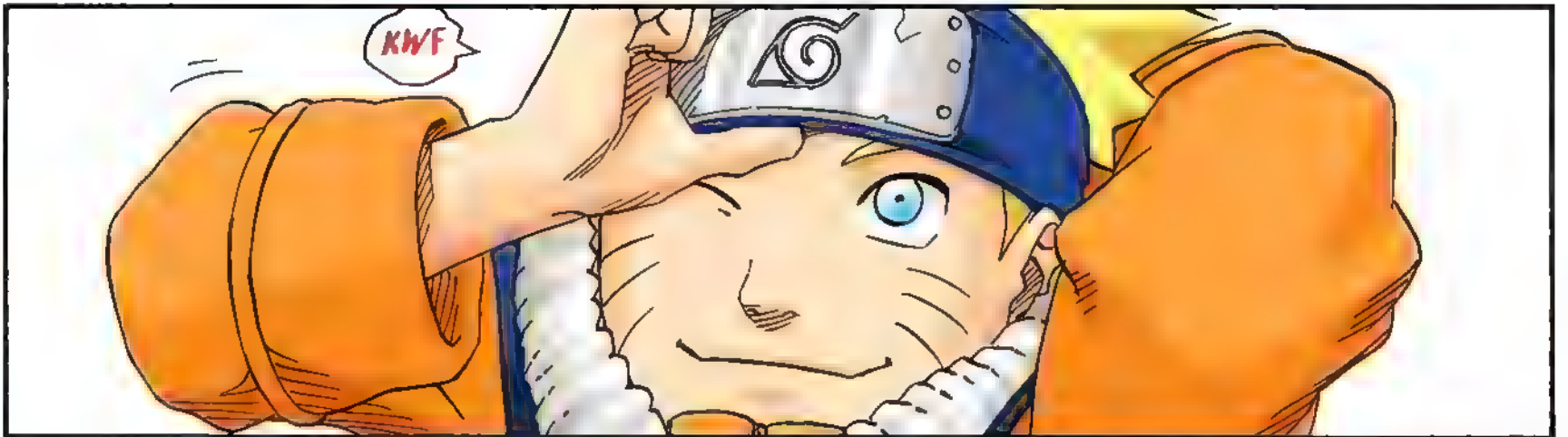
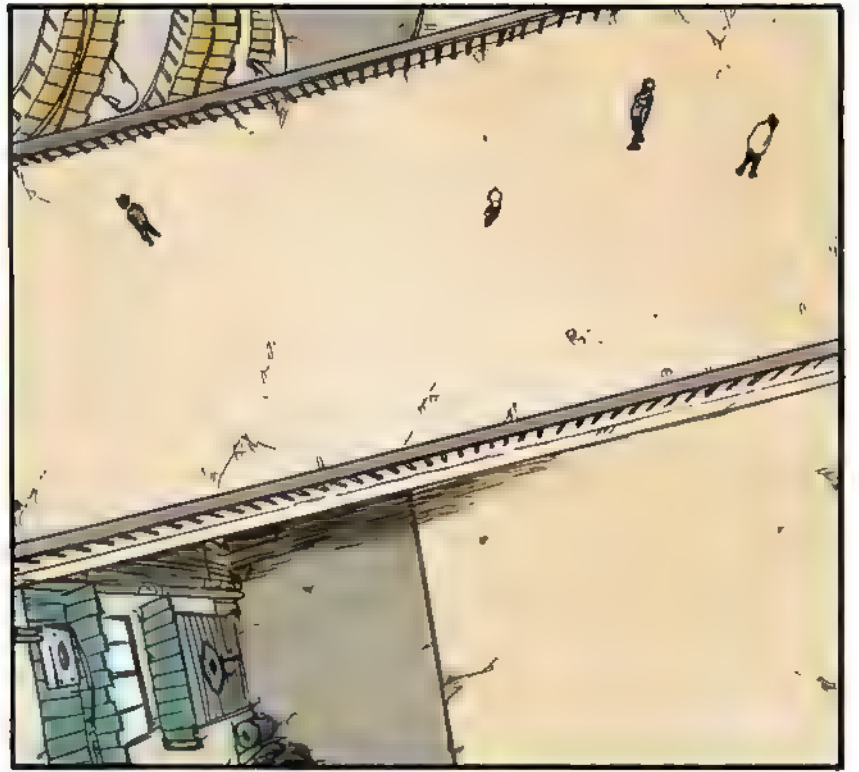
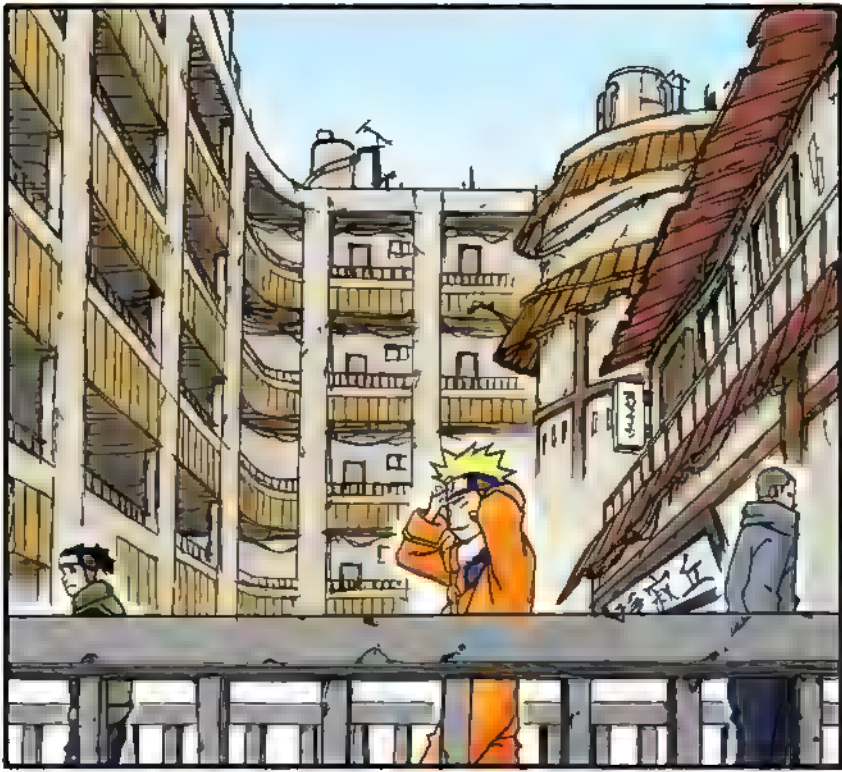
ナンバー

174

FEELINGS...!









I TOTALLY
LOOK GOOD
IN MY
HEADBAND...

...THAT YOU
GAVE ME,
MASTER
IRUKA?!

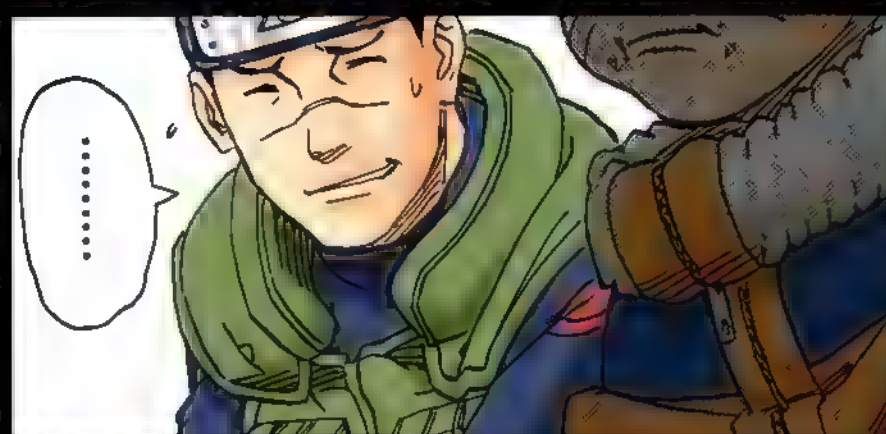
YEAH?!
REALLY?!

YOU
THINK
SO?



YOU STILL
GOT A LOT
TO LEARN.
YOU NEED
EXPERIENCE.

DON'T
GET TOO
WORKED
UP!





BUT WE
STILL HAVE
THE SAME
AMOUNT OF
WORK, IF NOT
MORE.

WE LOST
A LOT OF
SHINOBI,
INCLUDING THE
THIRD HOKAGE...
WE'RE AT
HALF THE
STRENGTH WE
ONCE HAD.



NARUTO...

KONOHA'S
IN BIG
TROUBLE.



IF WE
TURN DOWN
A MISSION...

...IT'S
LIKE SAYING
THE VILLAGE
IS WEAK.

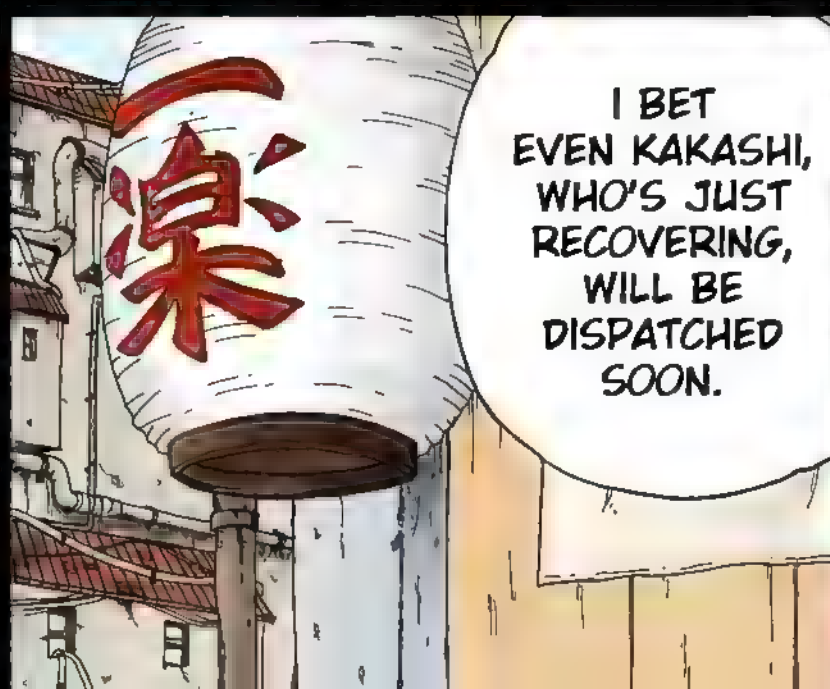
WE
CAN'T.

KONOHA'S
ALWAYS KEPT
THE BALANCE
OF POWER.

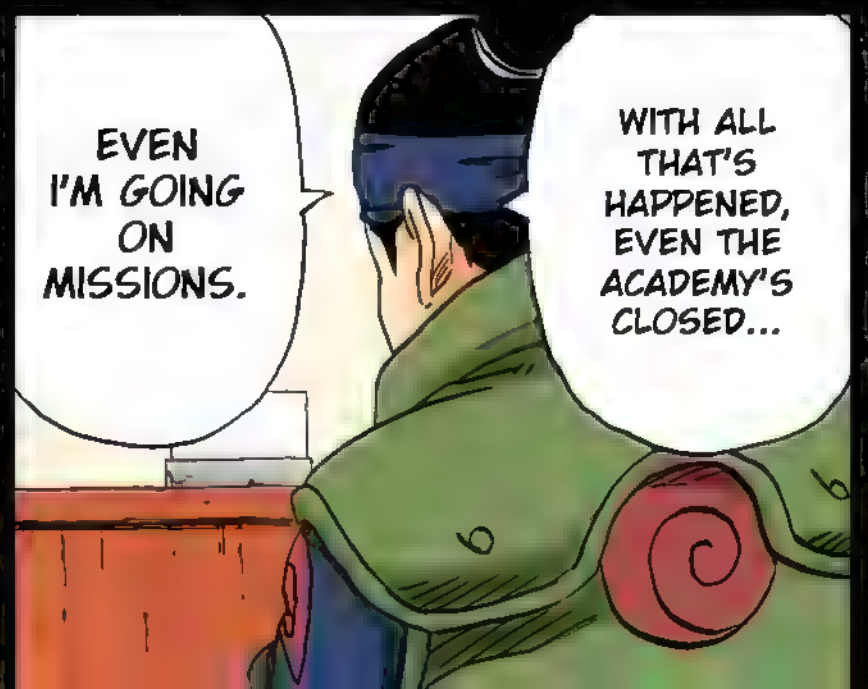


WHY?

JUST TURN
MISSIONS
DOWN IF YOU
DON'T HAVE
ENOUGH
PEOPLE.



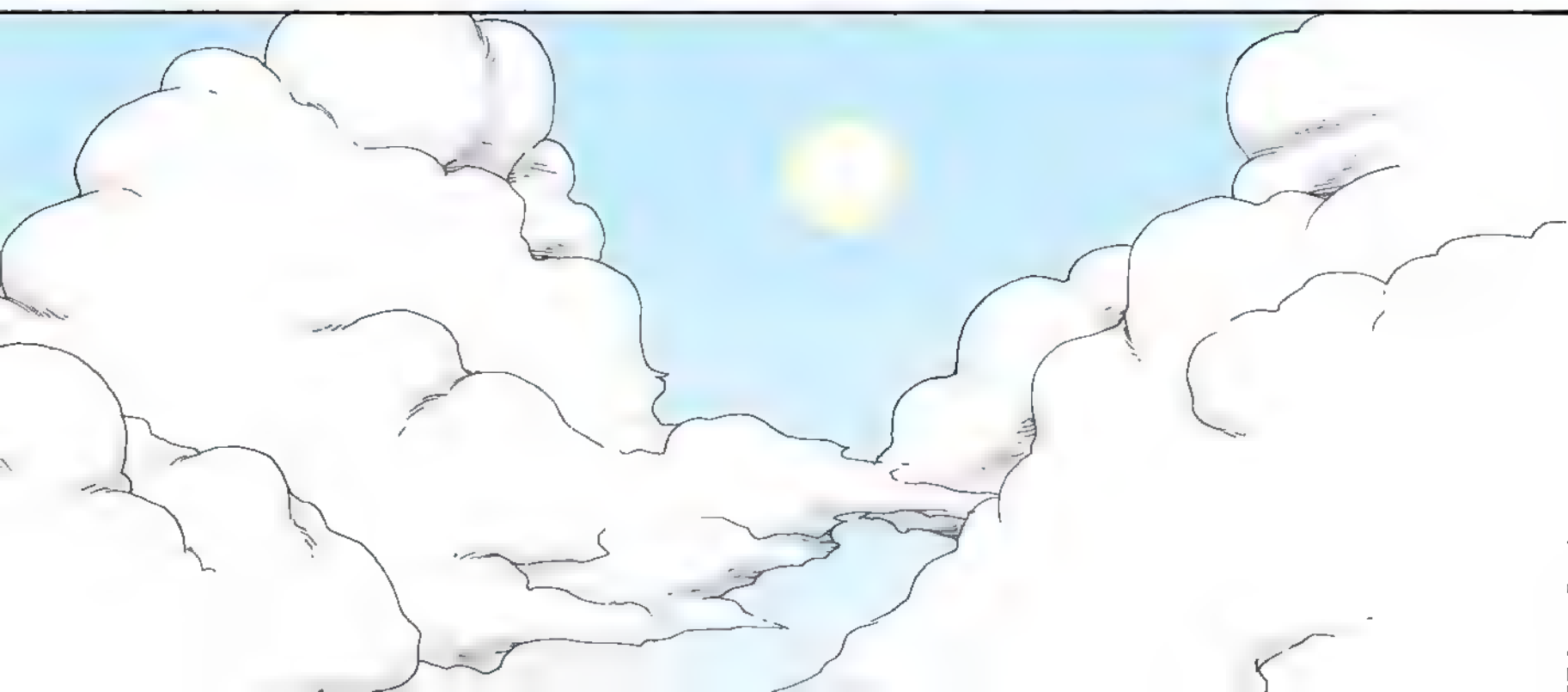
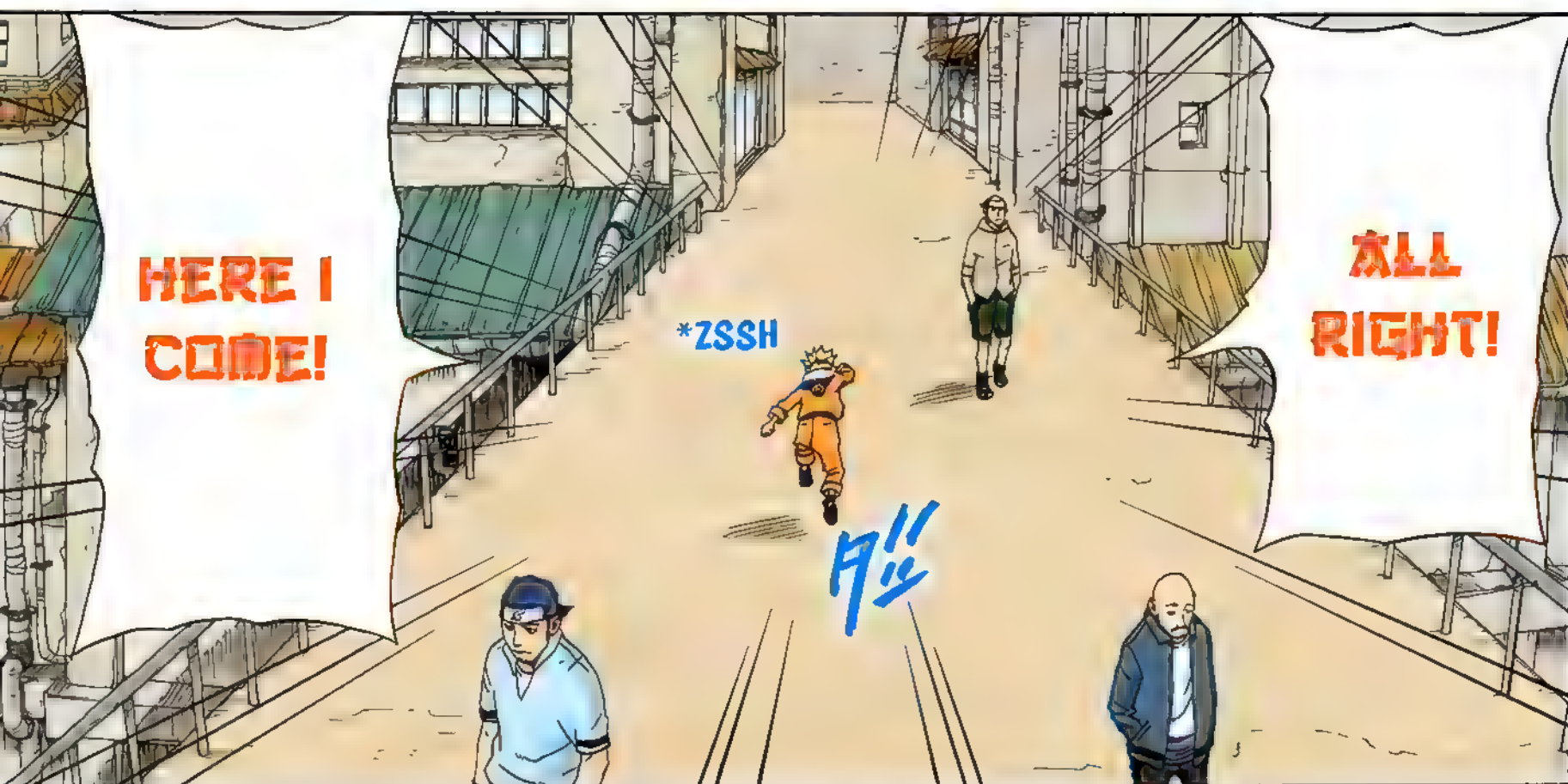
I BET
EVEN KAKASHI,
WHO'S JUST
RECOVERING,
WILL BE
DISPATCHED
SOON.

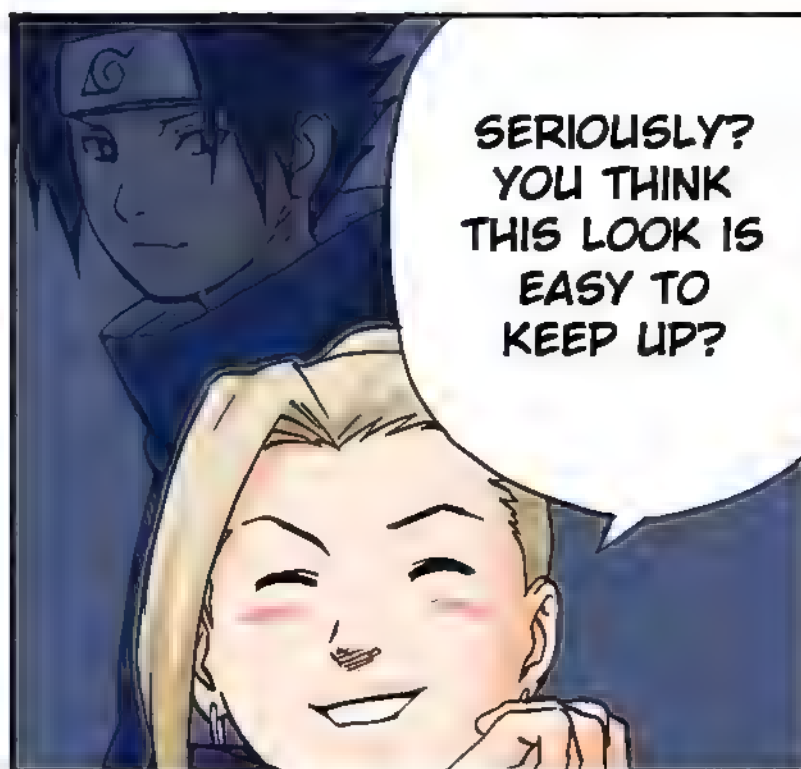
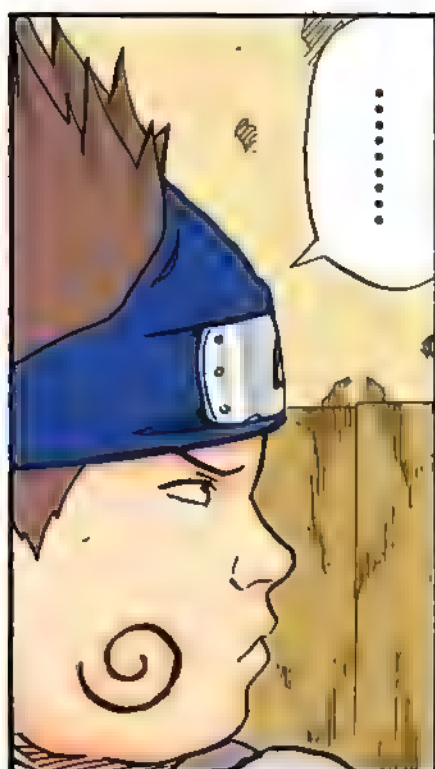
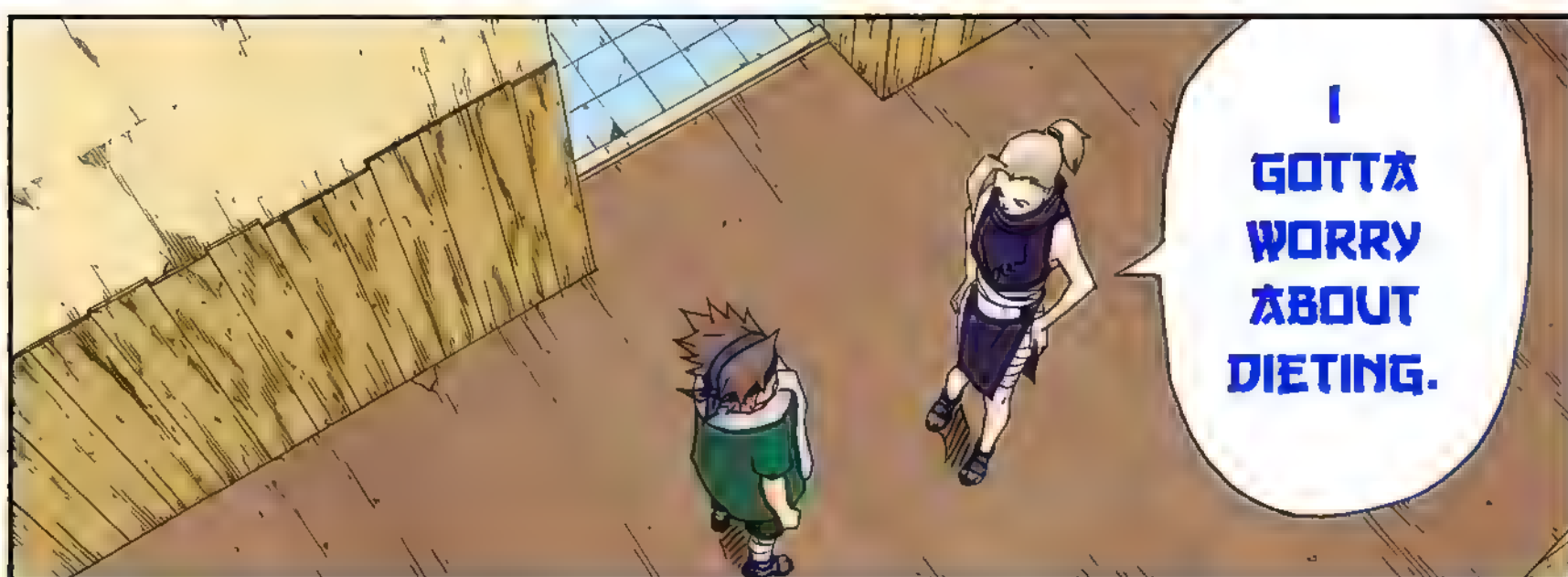
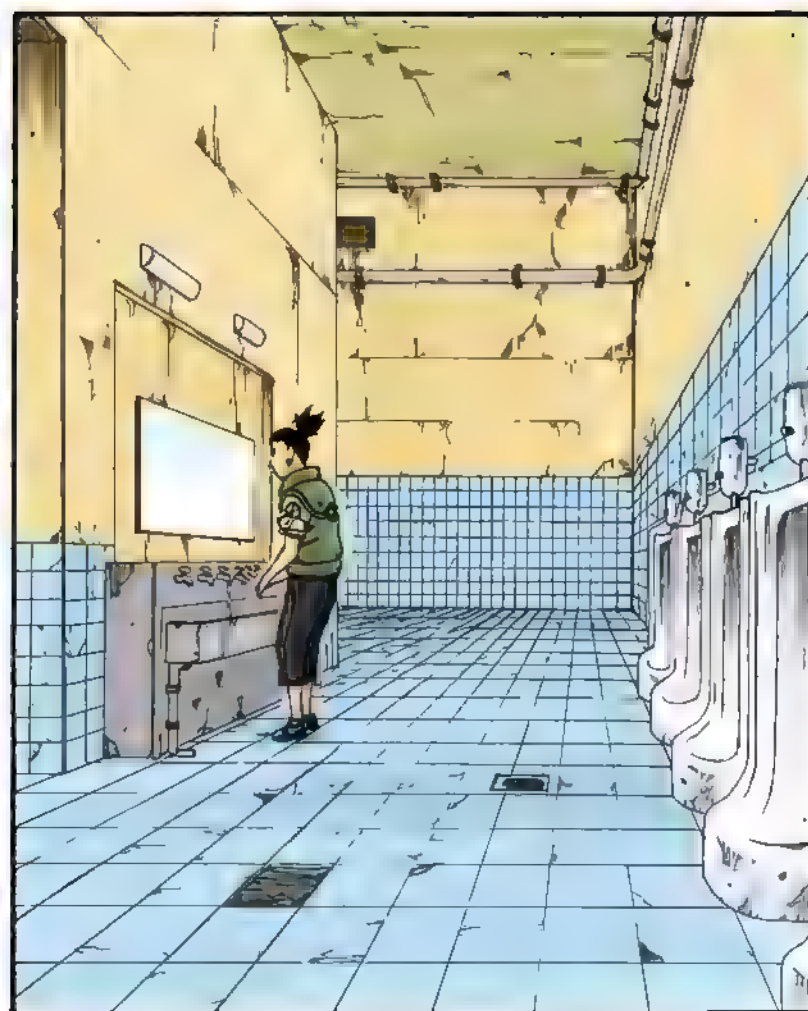


EVEN
I'M GOING
ON
MISSIONS.

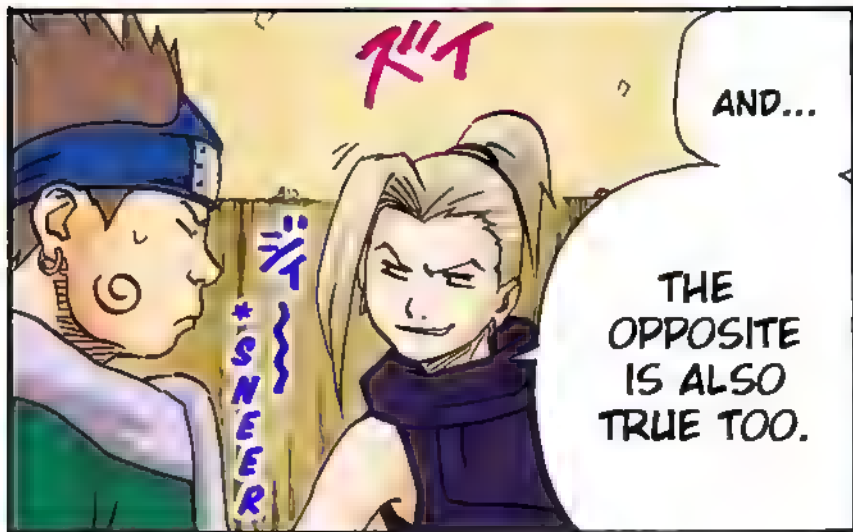
WITH ALL
THAT'S
HAPPENED,
EVEN THE
ACADEMY'S
CLOSED...





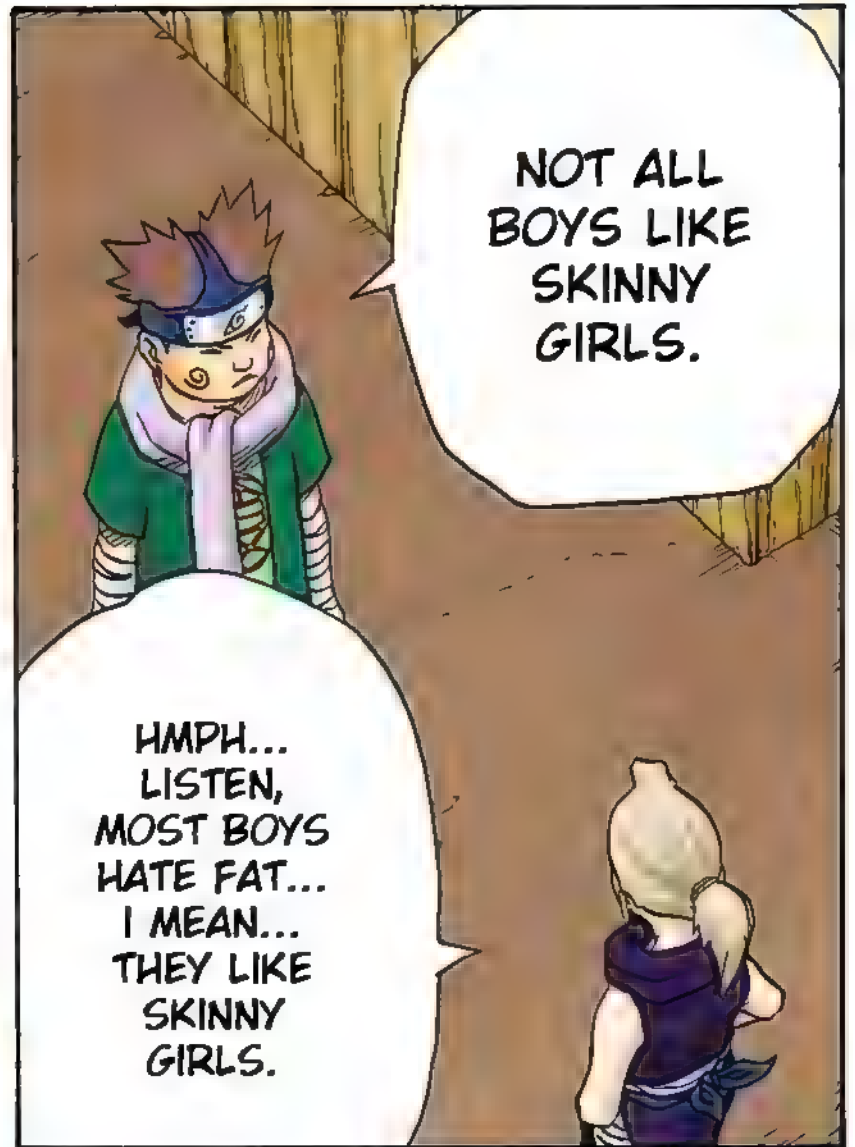


***ZOOM**



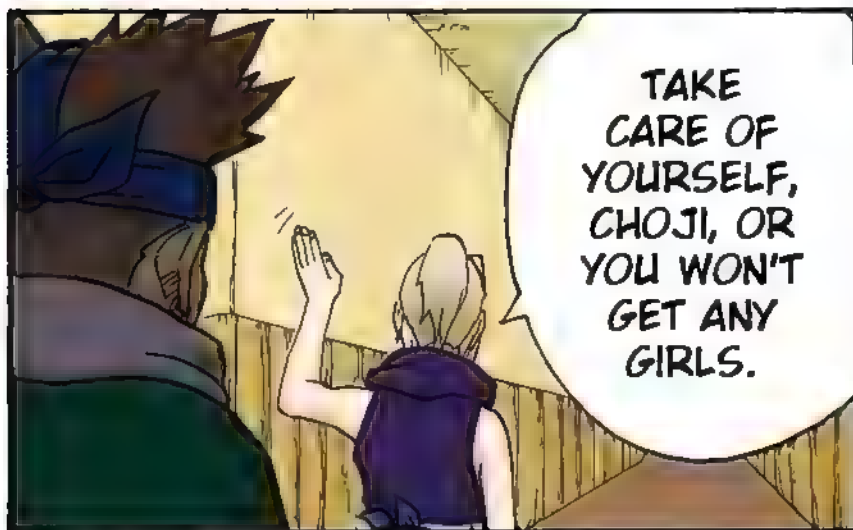
AND...

THE
OPPOSITE
IS ALSO
TRUE TOO.

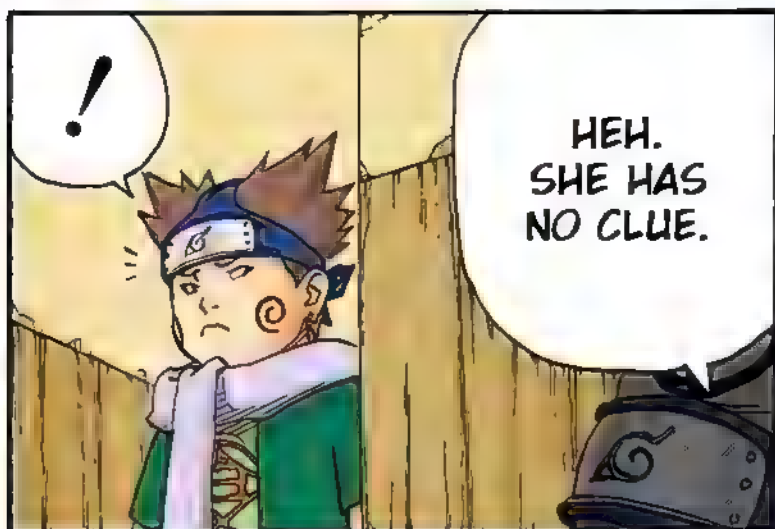


NOT ALL
BOYS LIKE
SKINNY
GIRLS.

HMPH...
LISTEN,
MOST BOYS
HATE FAT...
I MEAN...
THEY LIKE
SKINNY
GIRLS.



TAKE
CARE OF
YOURSELF,
CHOJI, OR
YOU WON'T
GET ANY
GIRLS.

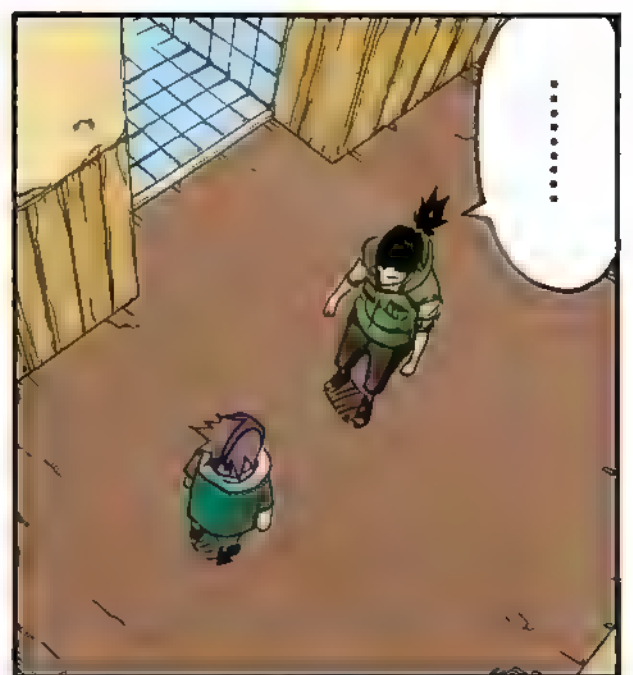
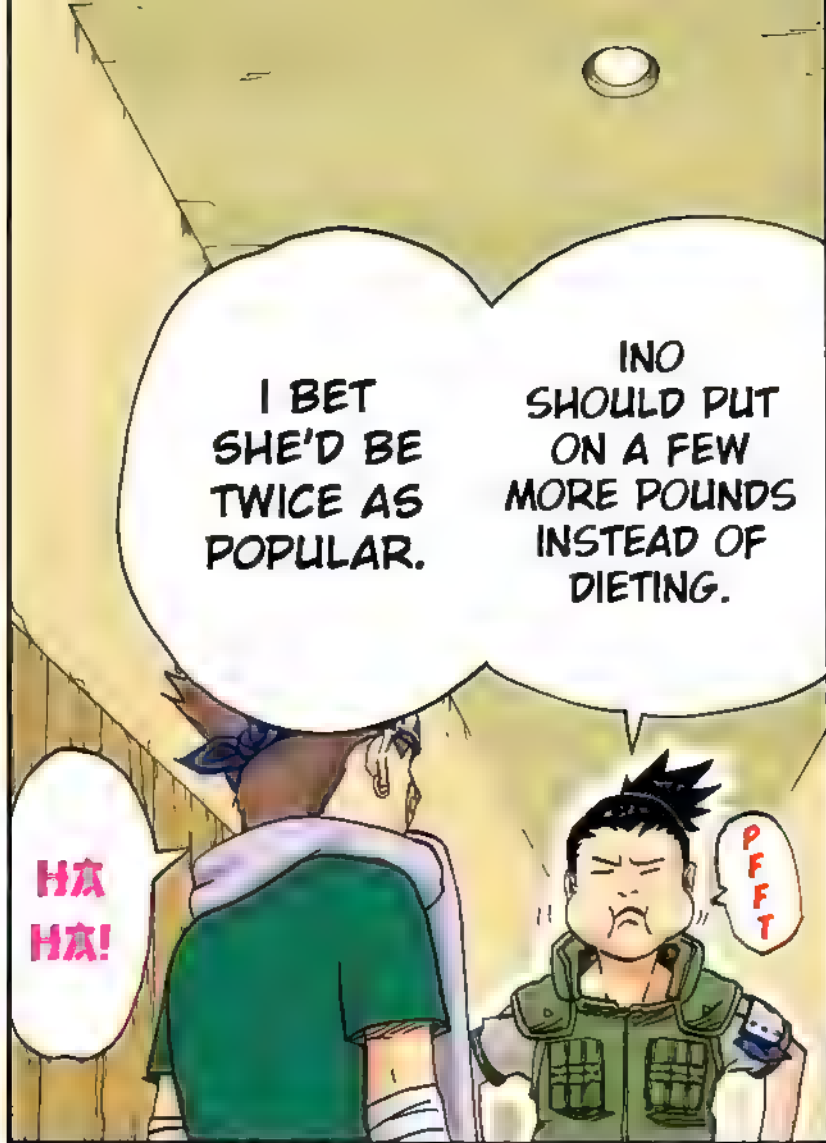


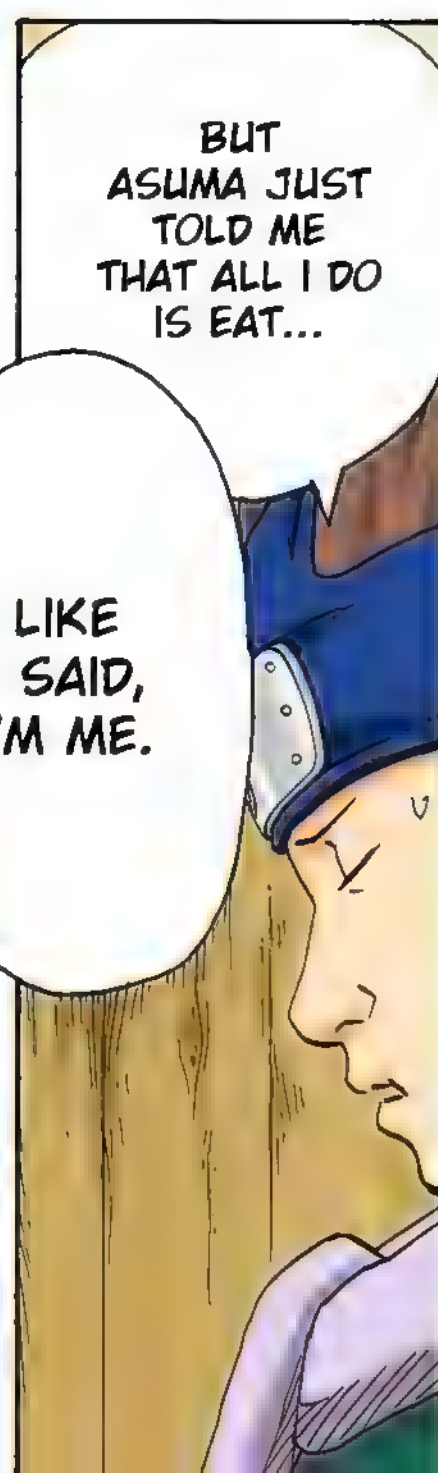
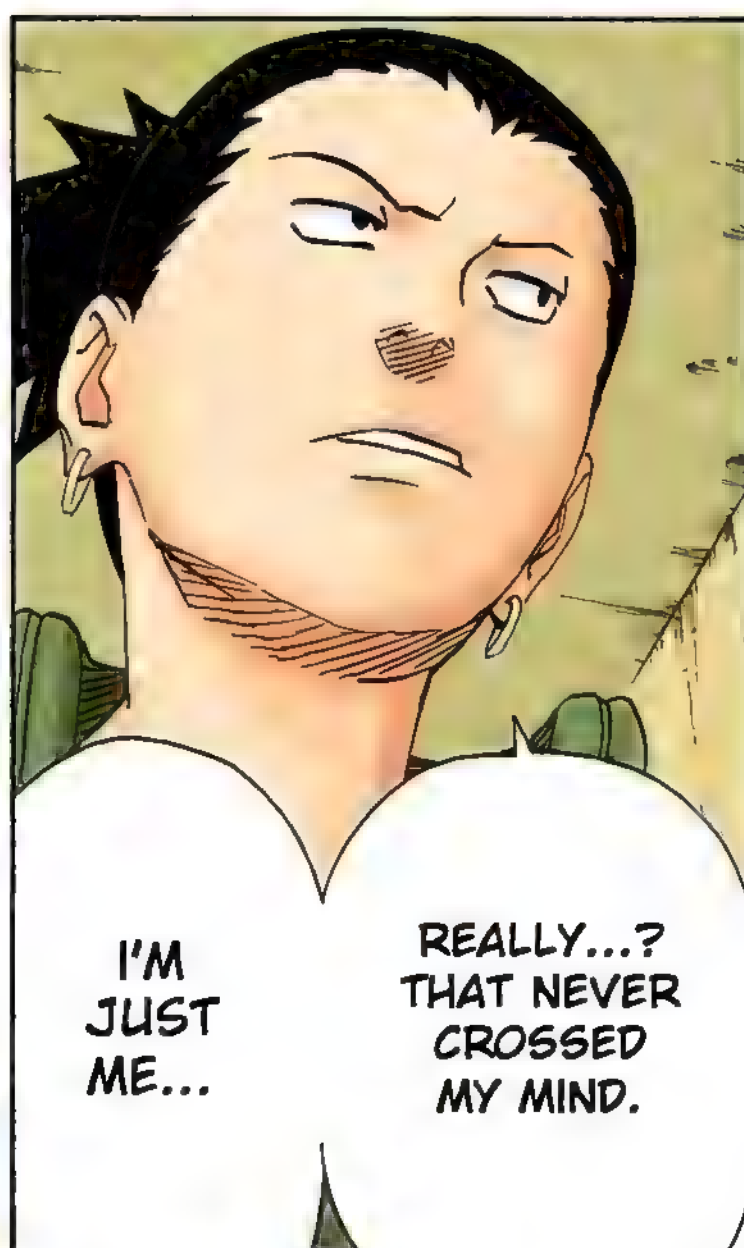
HEH.
SHE HAS
NO CLUE.

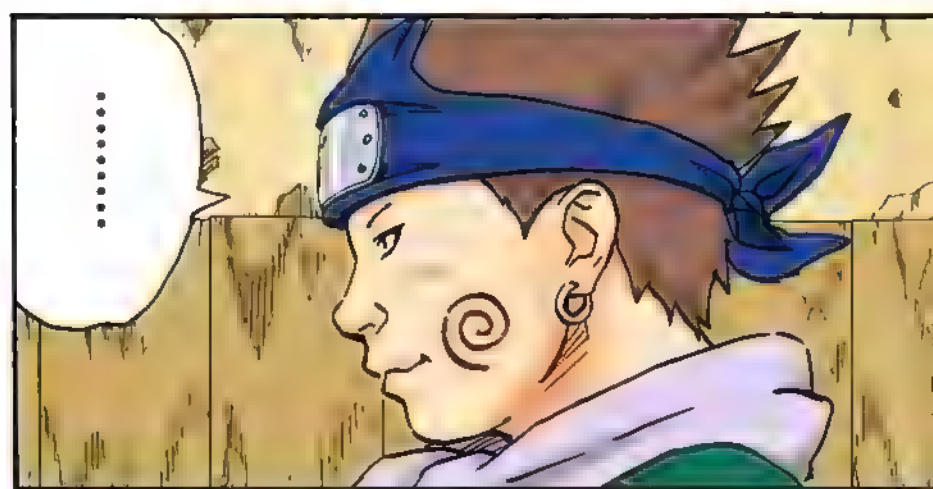
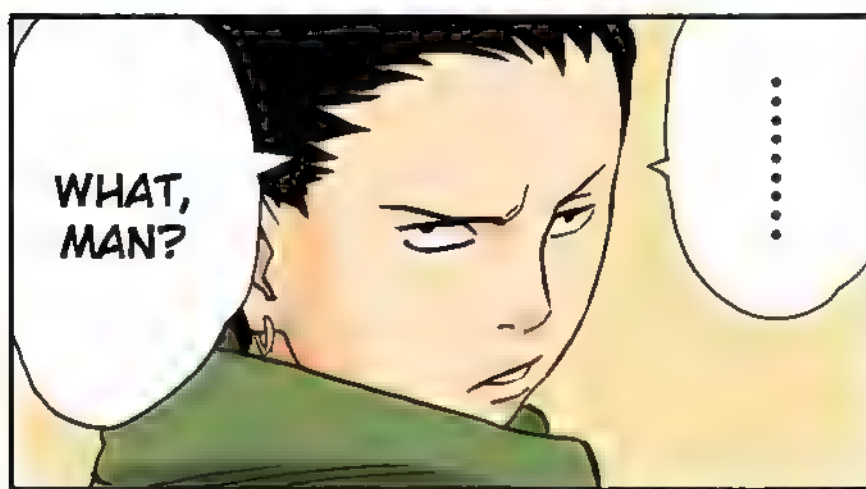
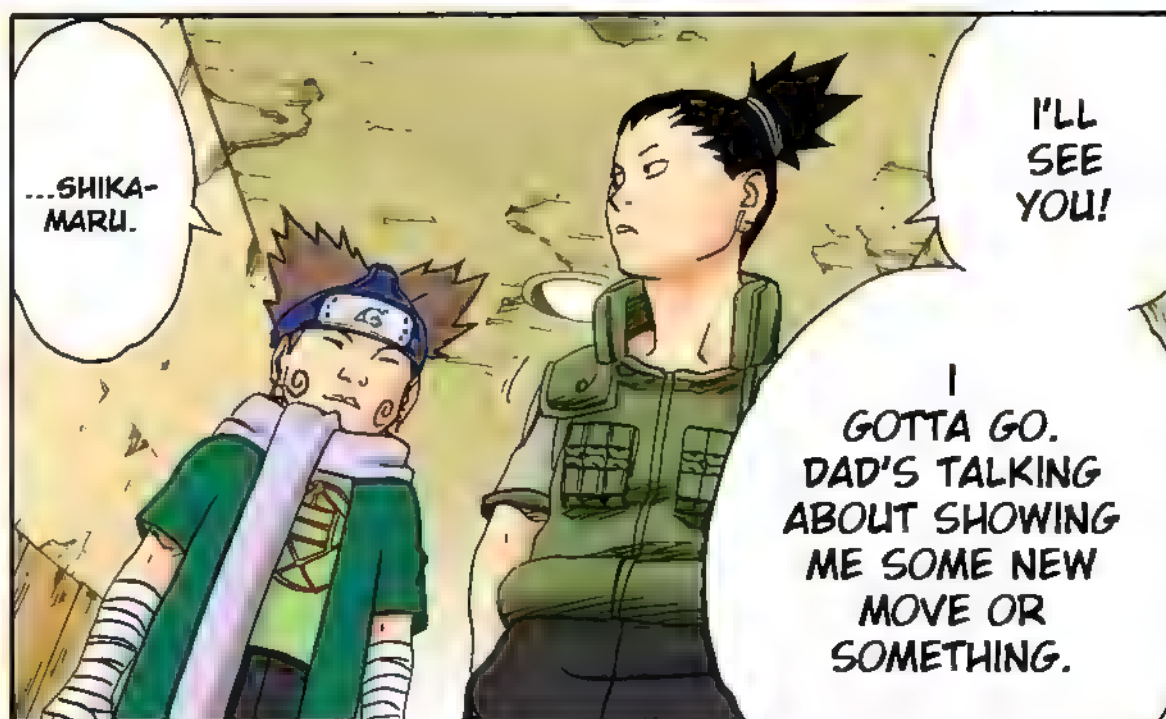


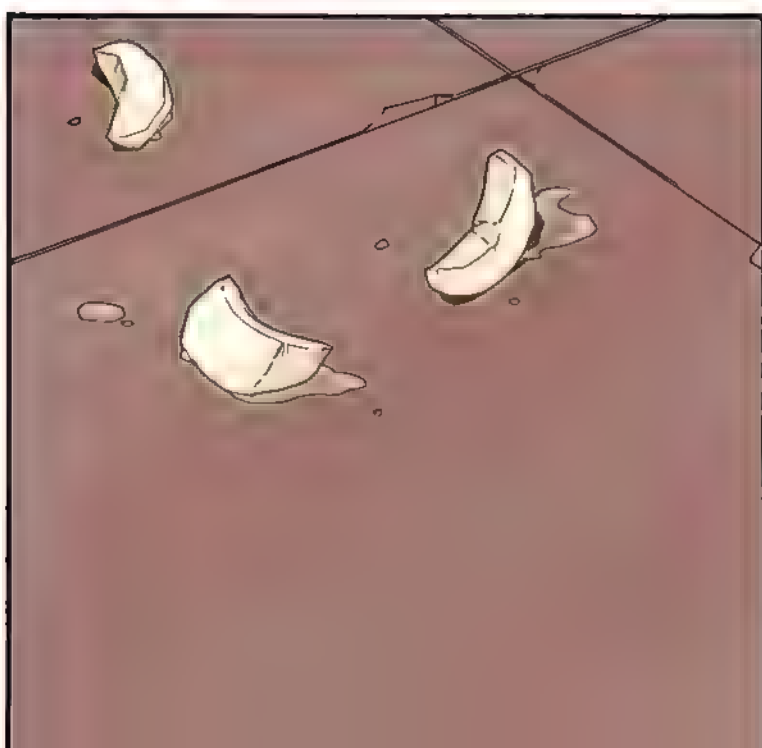
ACTUALLY,
MOST OF US
LIK 'EM A
LITTLE MORE
SUBSTANTIAL!

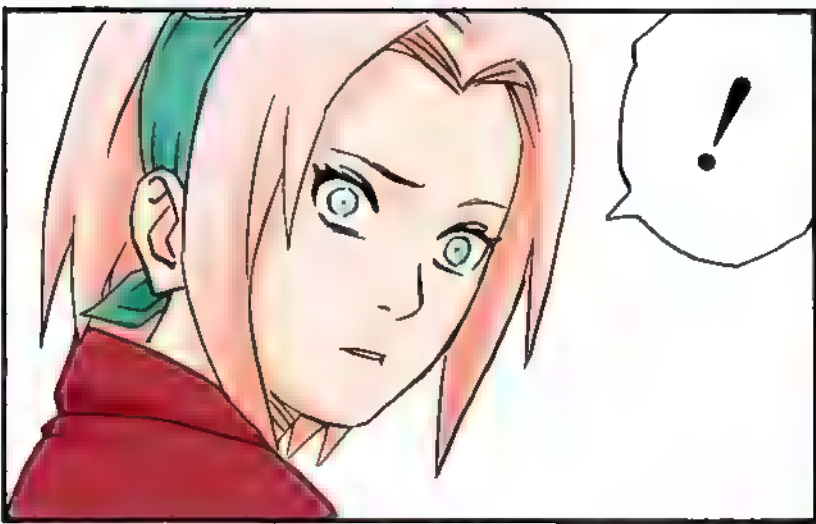
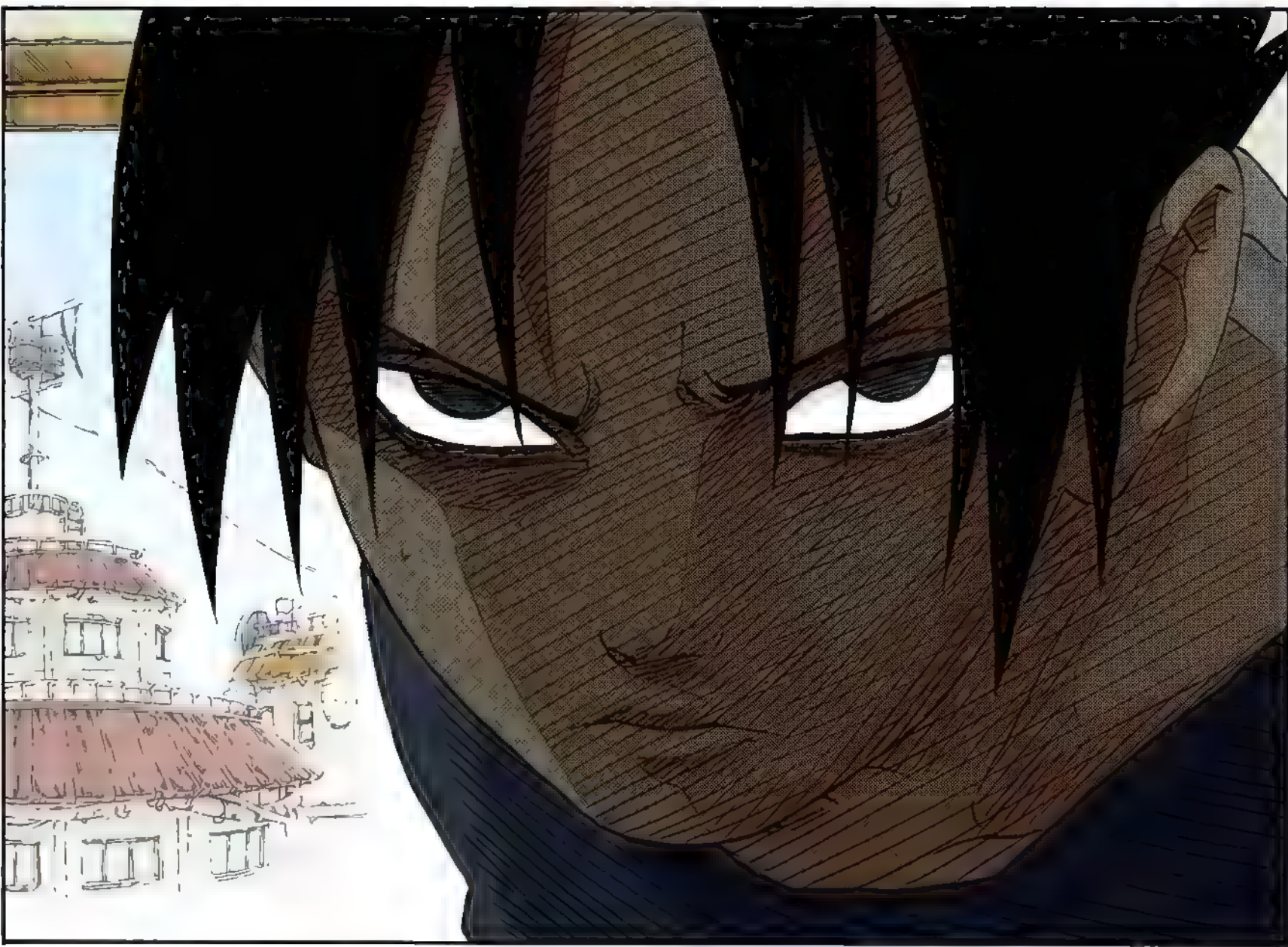
GUYS
DON'T LIKE
SKINNY GIRLS
AS MUCH
AS GIRLS
THINK
WE DO.

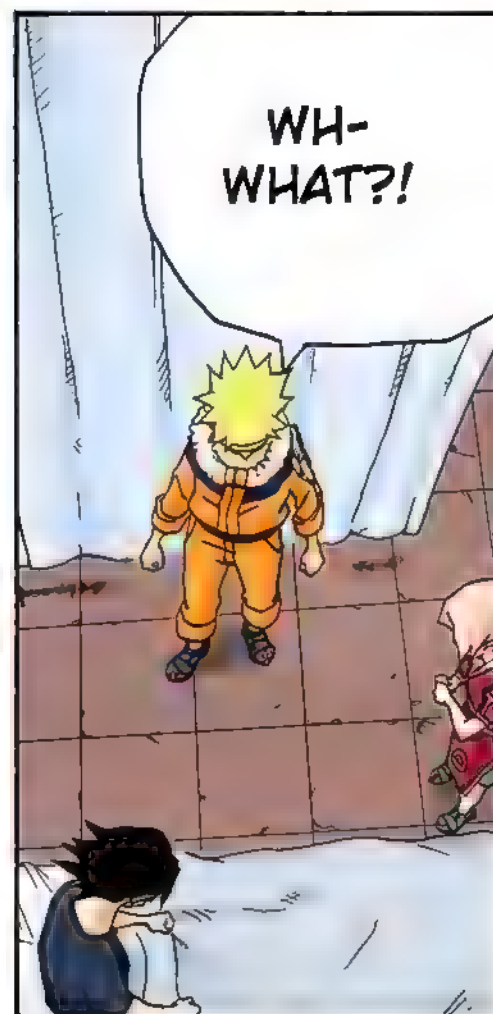
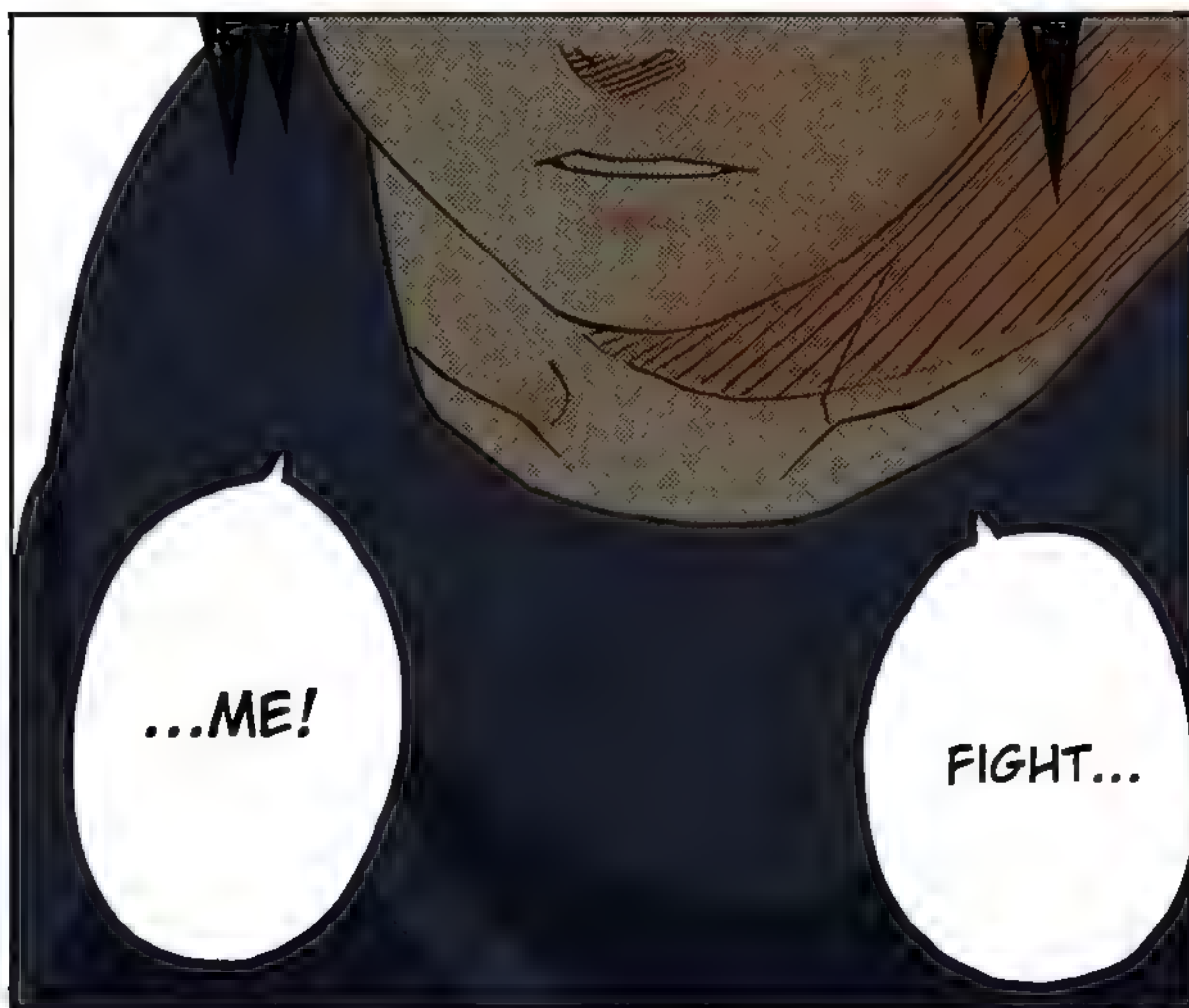
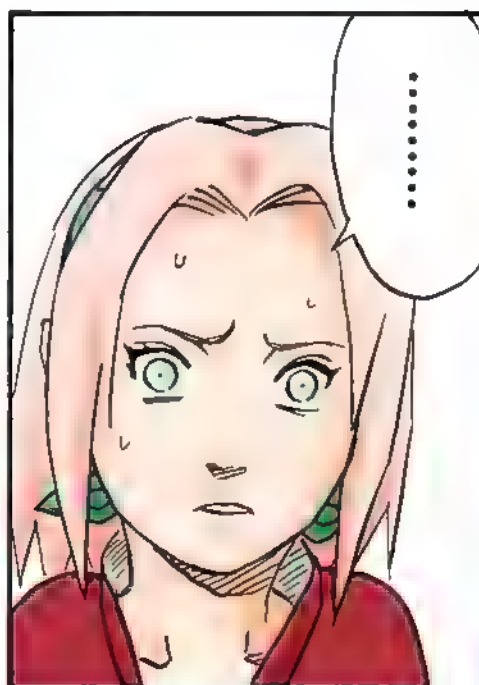






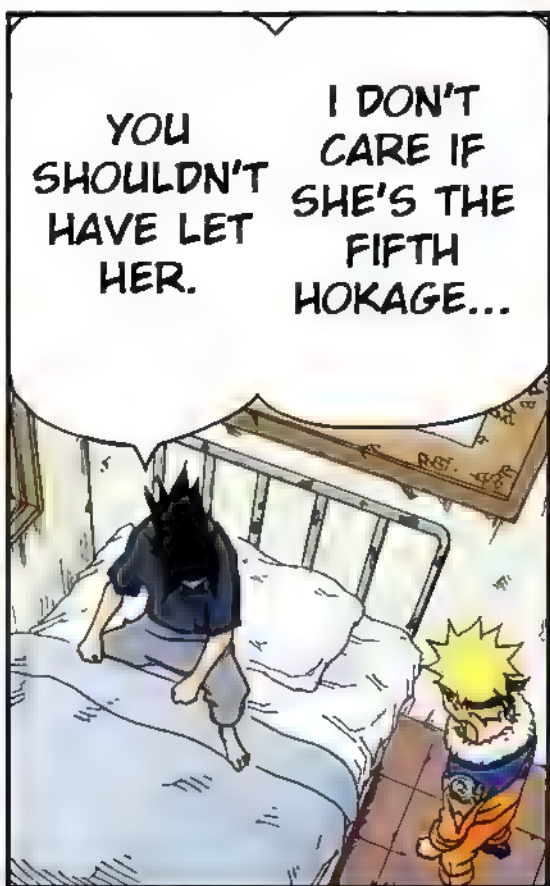
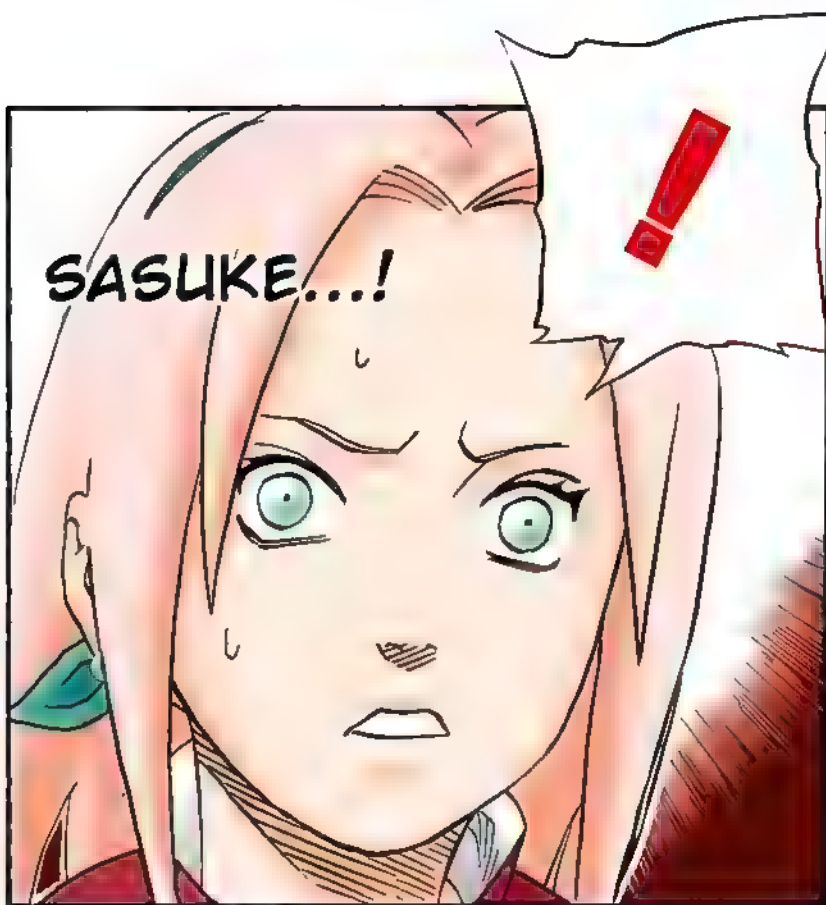


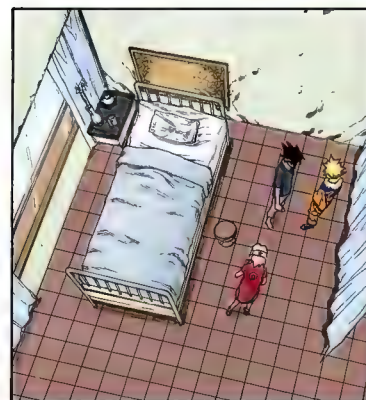




A close-up, high-contrast illustration of Sasuke Uchiha's face. He has dark, spiky hair and is looking directly at the viewer with a serious, intense expression. His eyes are red with black tomoe patterns. A white speech bubble is positioned in the upper right corner of the frame. The background is dark and indistinct.

**SHUT UP
AND FIGHT
ME!!**



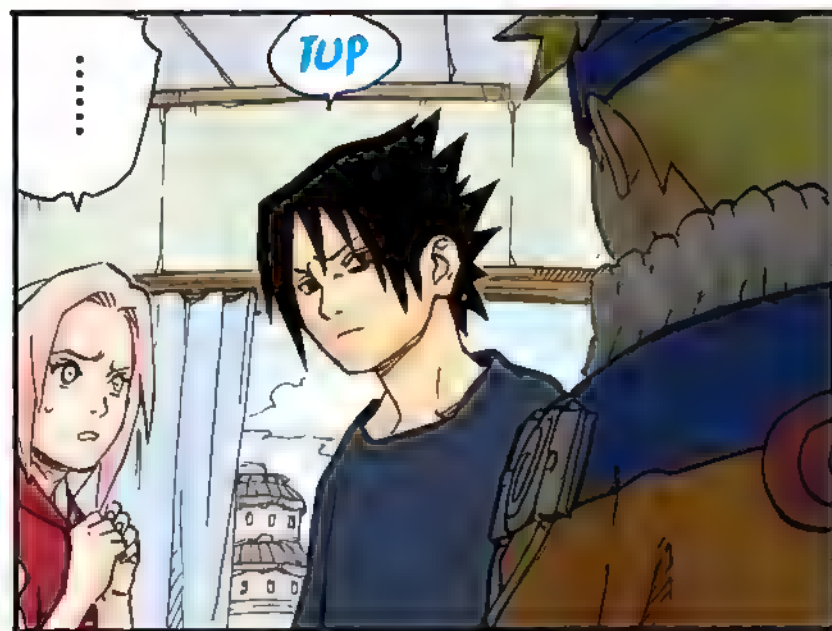
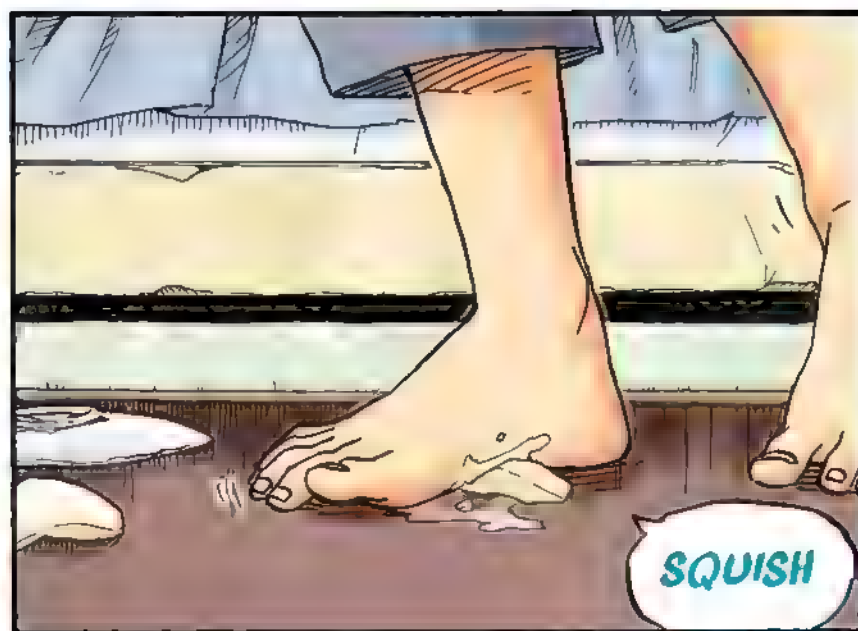
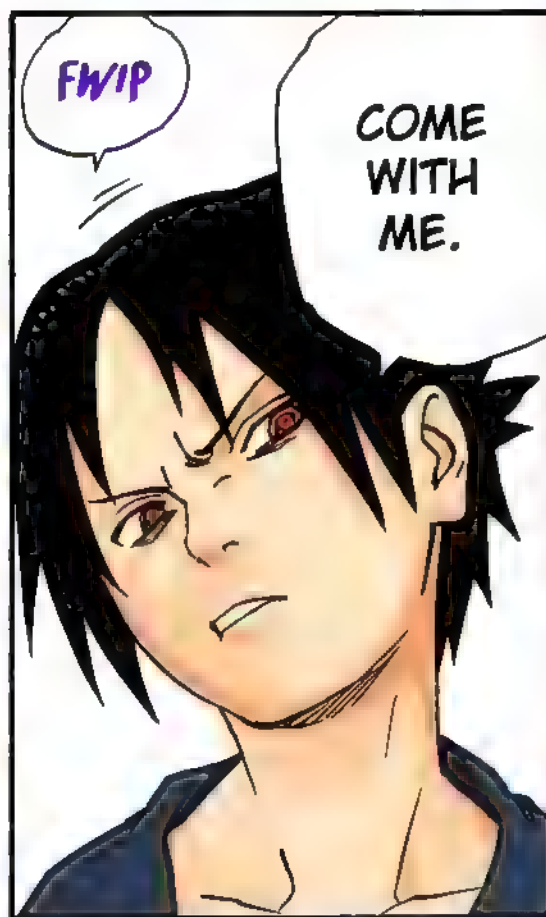


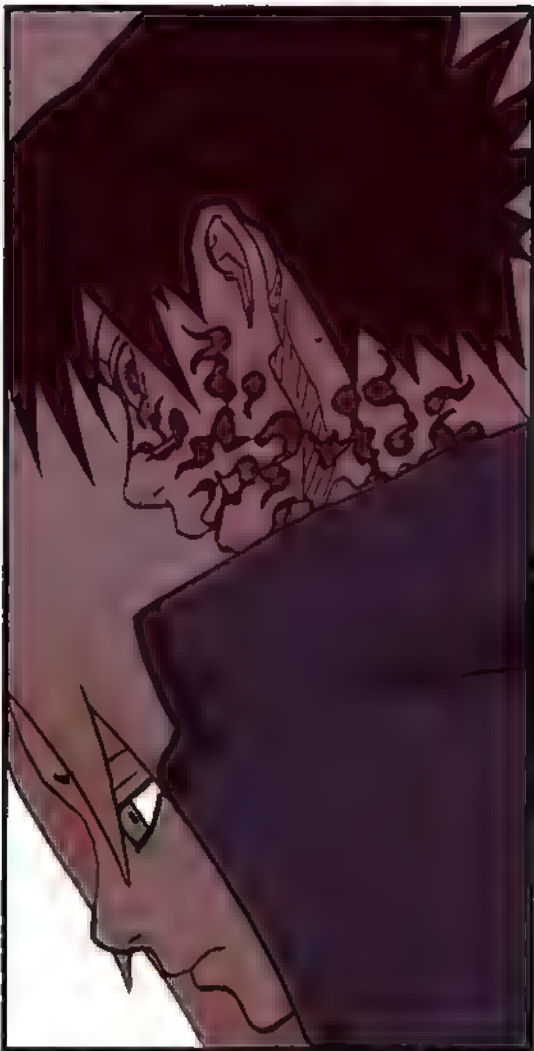
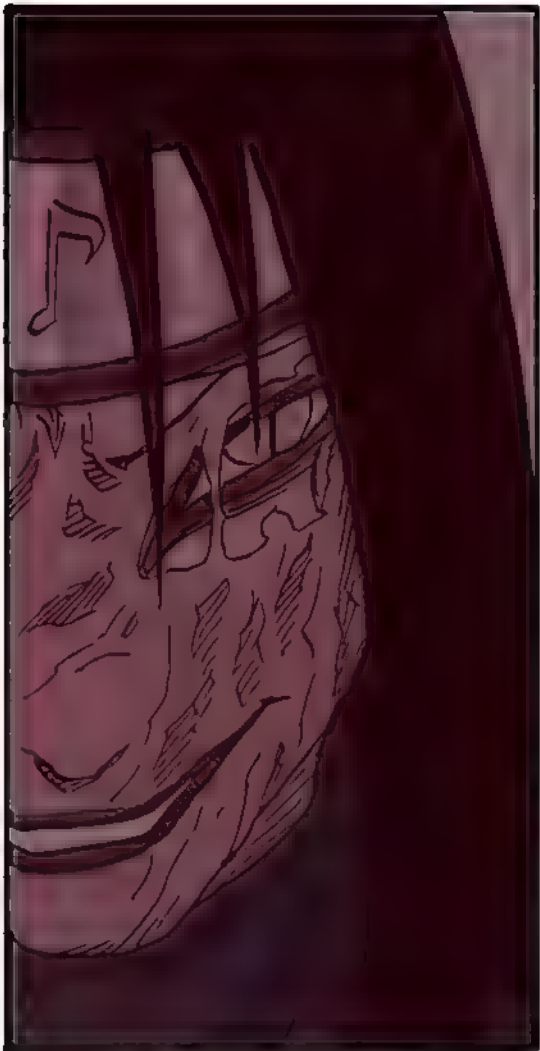
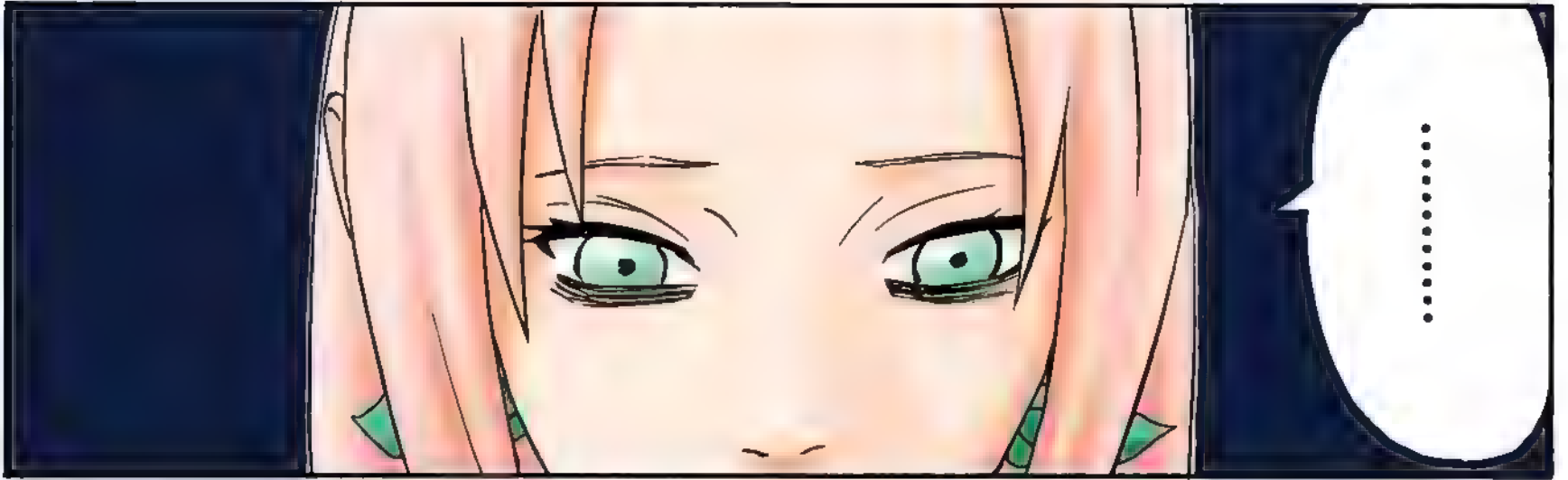
ナンバー

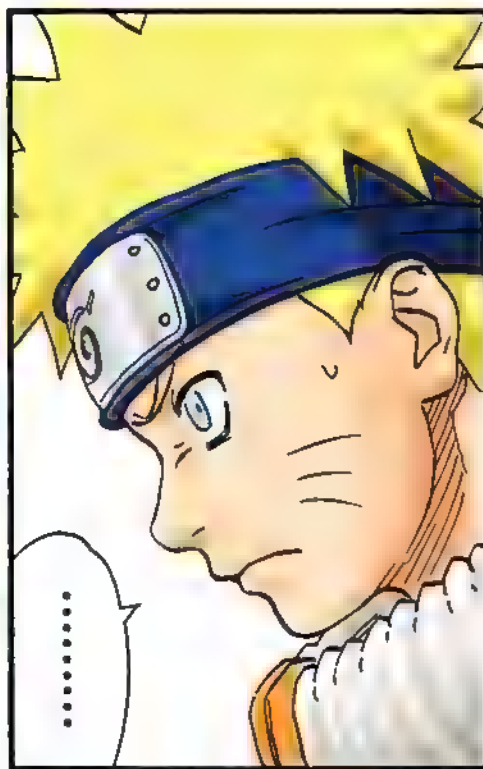
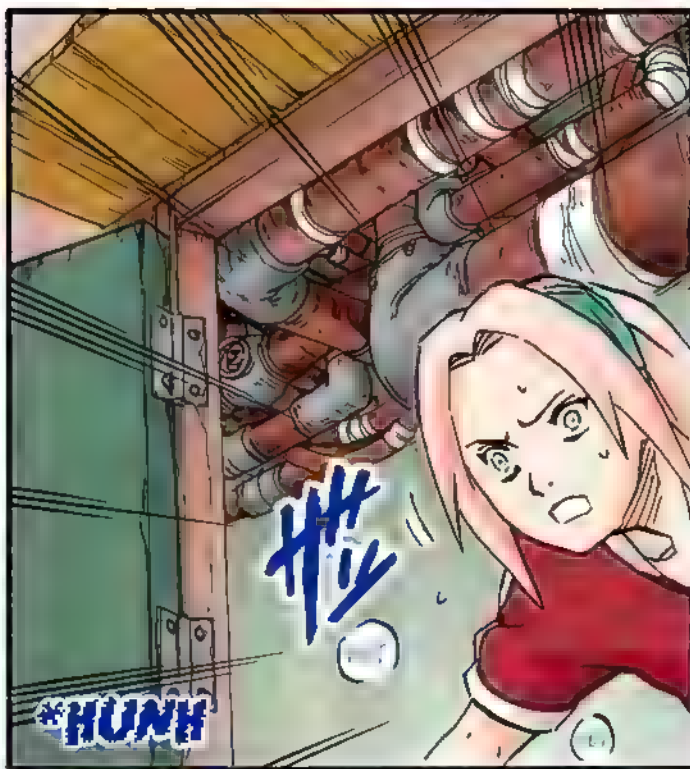
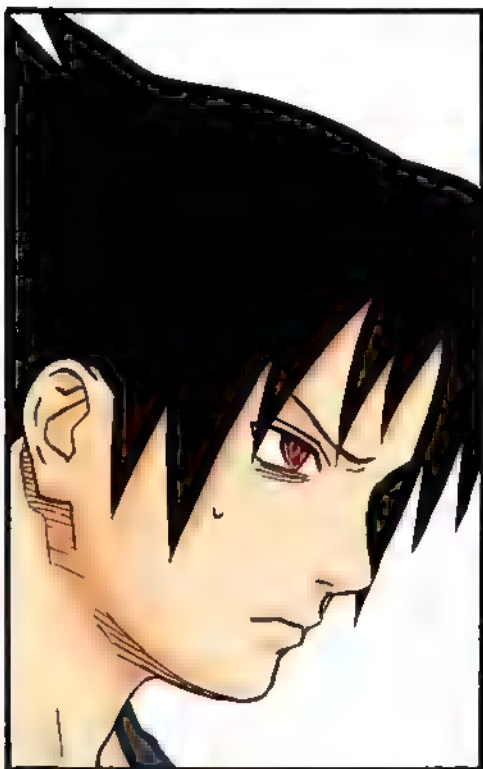
175



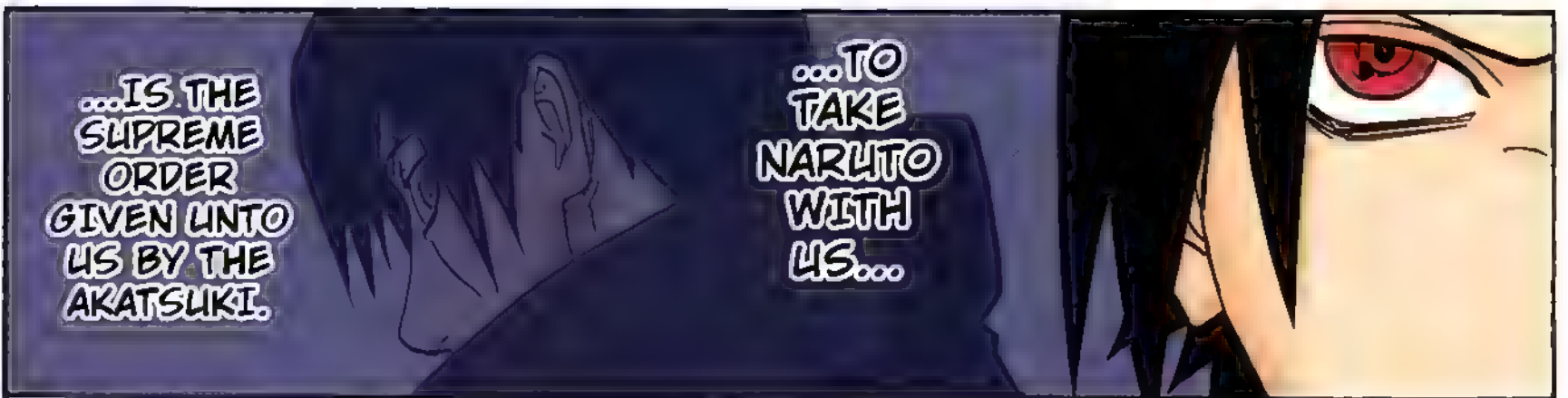
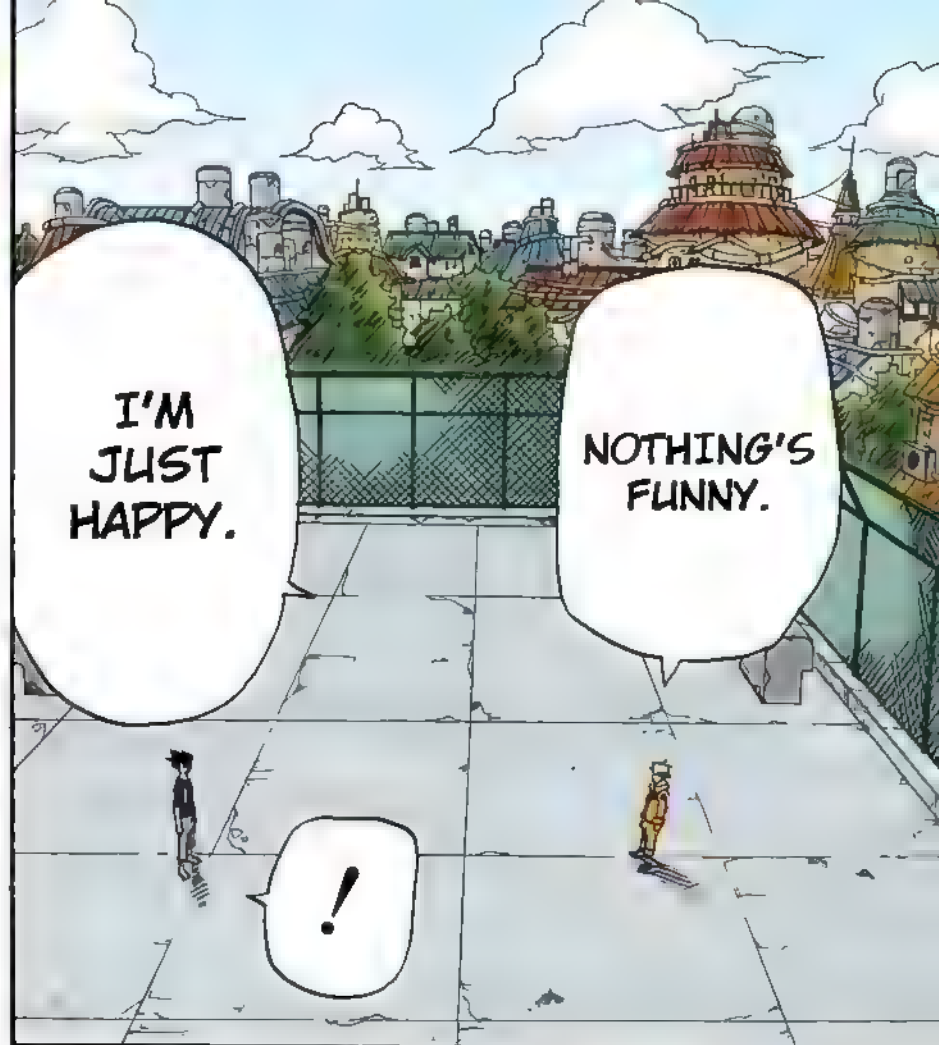
NARUTO VS. SASUKE!!













SHUT UP
AND BRING
IT!

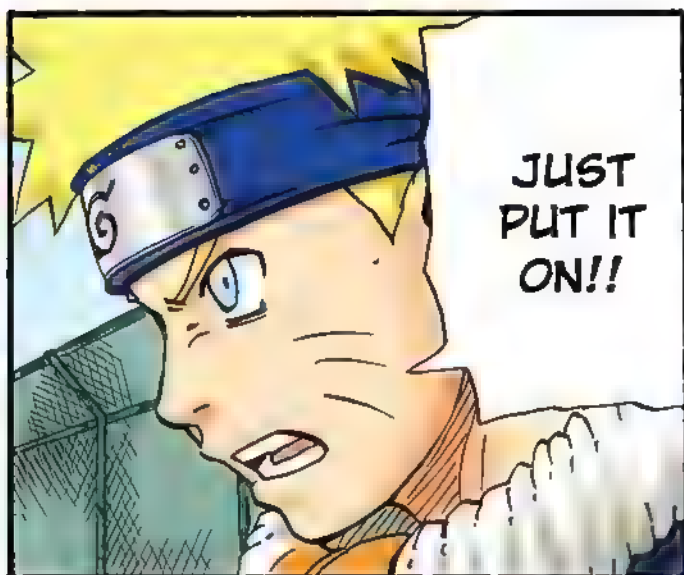


...ARE YOU
REGRETTING
CALLING
ME OUT?

HUH
SASUKE...?

HEH...
YOU'RE
TALKING
A LOT OF
TRASH,
SASUKE.

IT'S
NOT LIKE
YOU.



JUST
PUT IT
ON!!



I
DON'T
NEED
IT...

PUT ON
YOUR
HEADBAND
FIRST.
I'LL WAIT.



YOU
WON'T EVEN
BE ABLE
TO PUT A
SCRATCH
ON MY
FOREHEAD!



THIS IS
THE SYMBOL
OF TWO
KONOHA
SHINOBI...

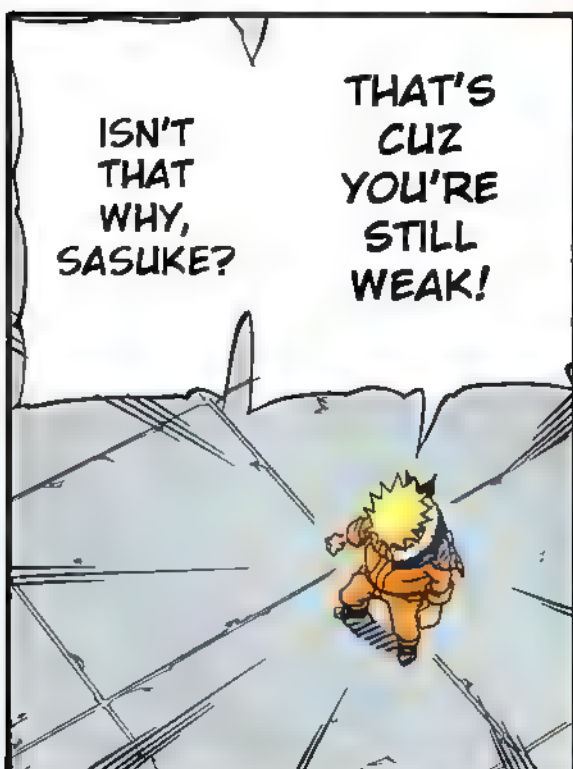
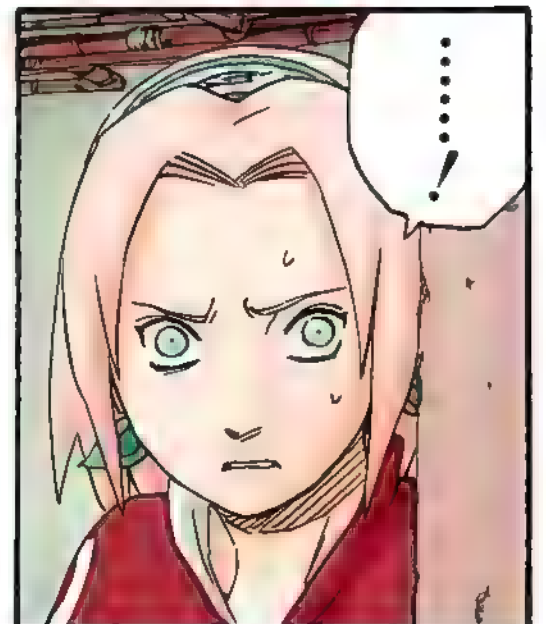
**THAT'S
NOT
WHY!!**

...FIGHTING
AS EQUALS!



YOU
THINK WE'RE
EQUALS?!

I ALREADY
ASKED YOU
WHO YOU
THINK YOU'RE
FOOLING?!



ISN'T
THAT
WHY,
SASUKE?

THAT'S
CUZ
YOU'RE
STILL
WEAK!



YOU'RE
MAKING
ME ANGRY,
NARUTO!!



I'VE
ALWAYS
BEEN AS
GOOD
AS YOU!

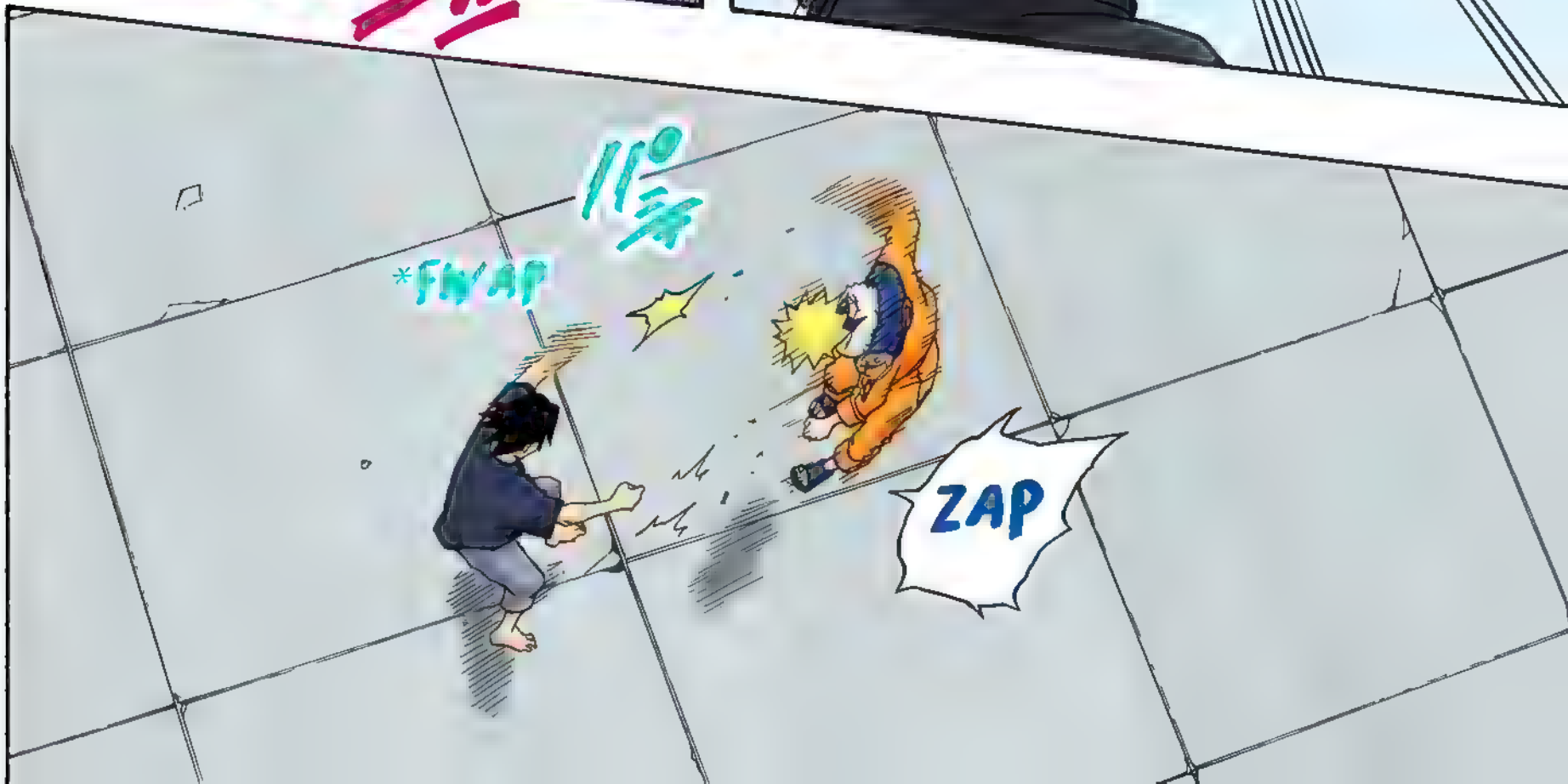
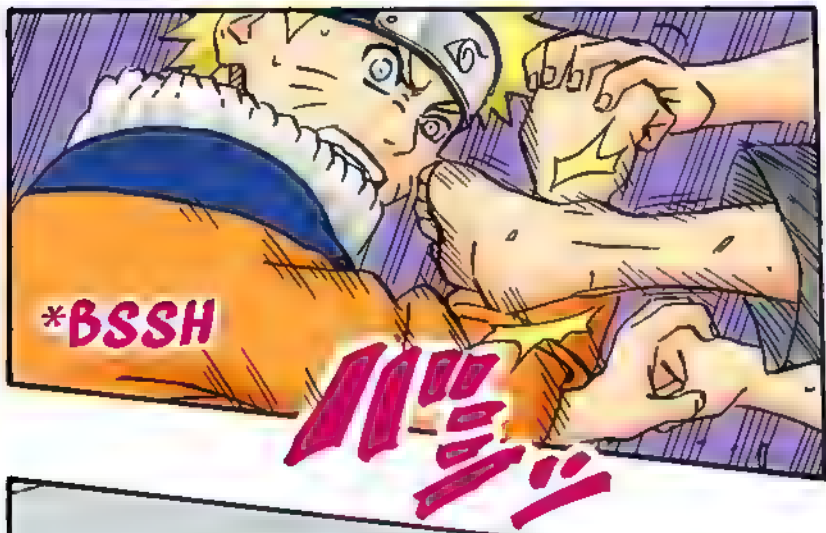
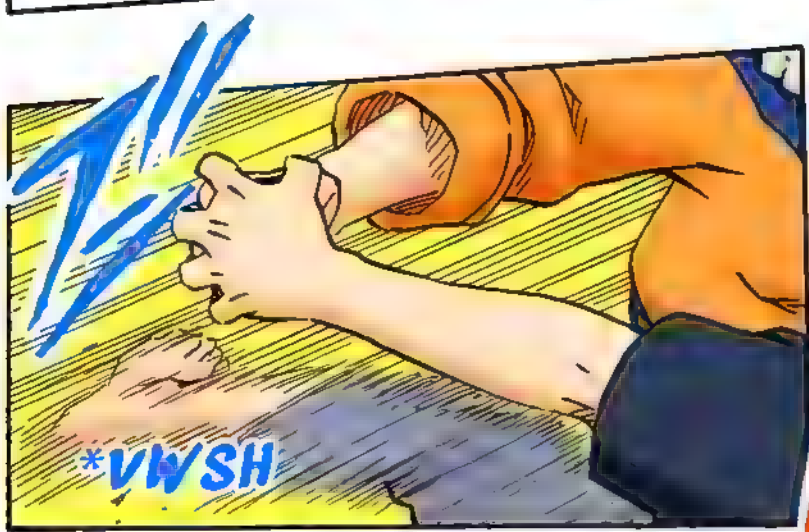
**YEAH,
I DO!!**

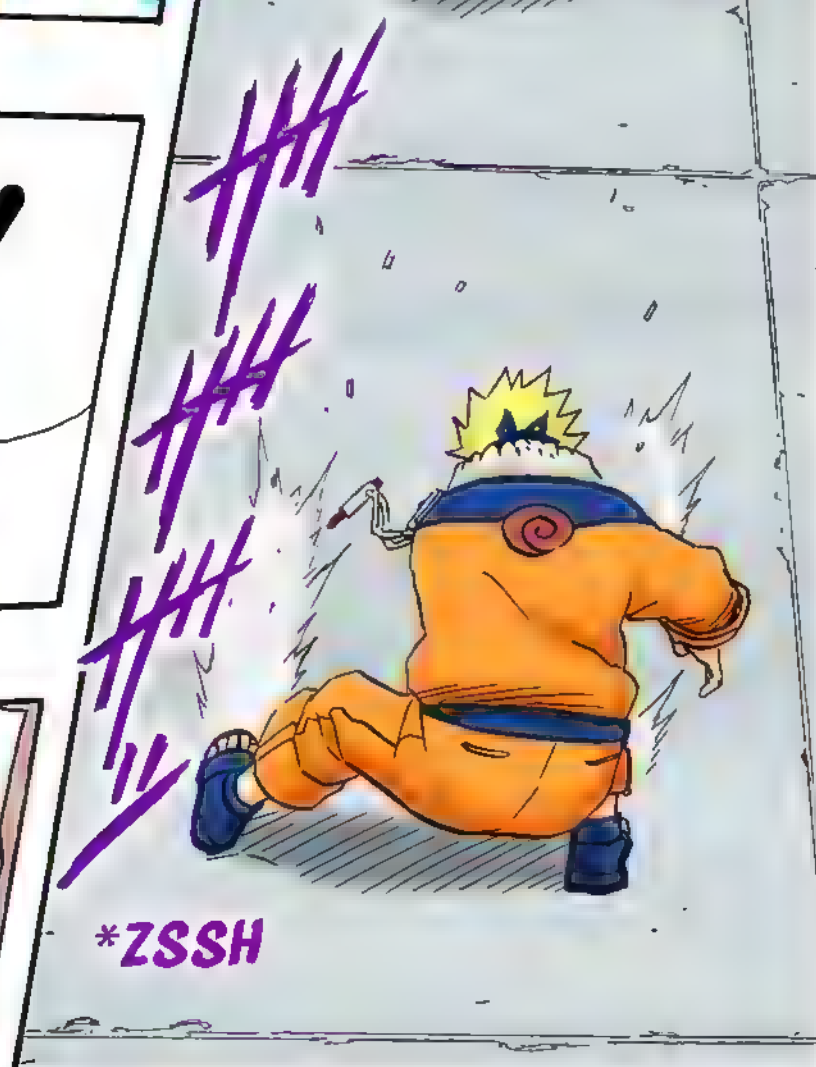
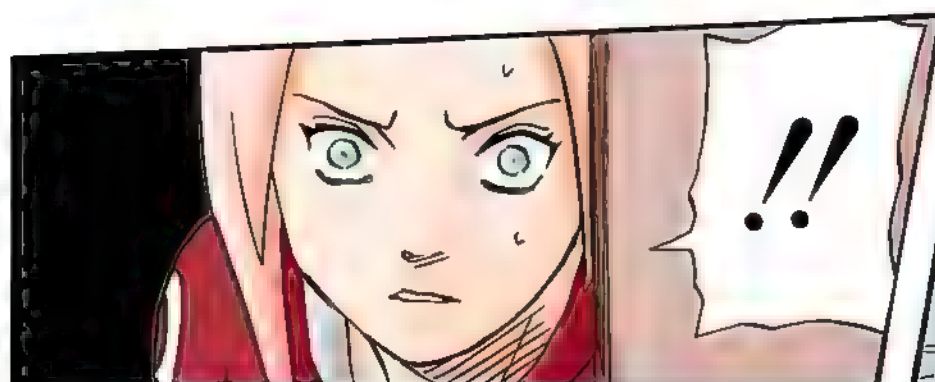
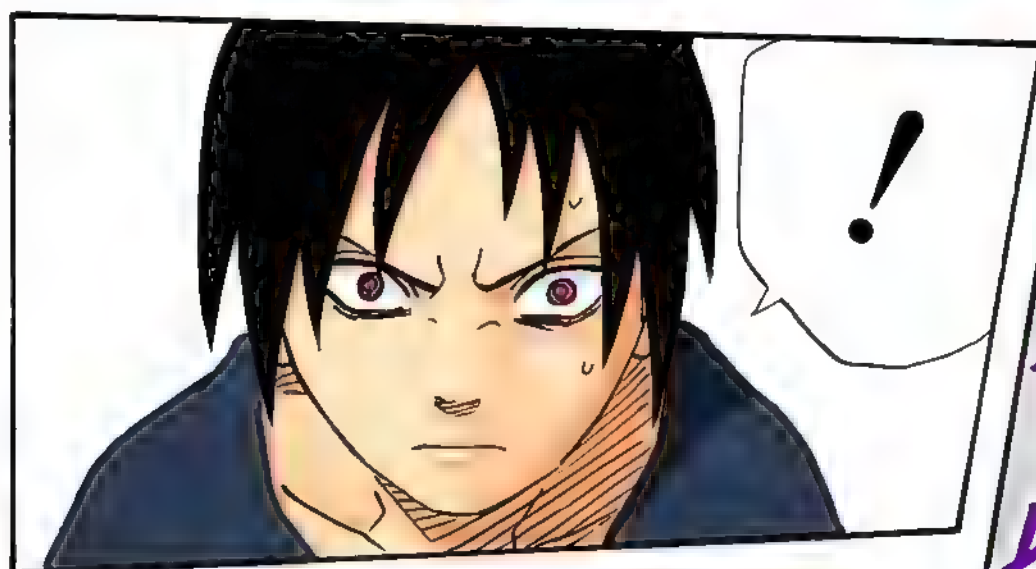


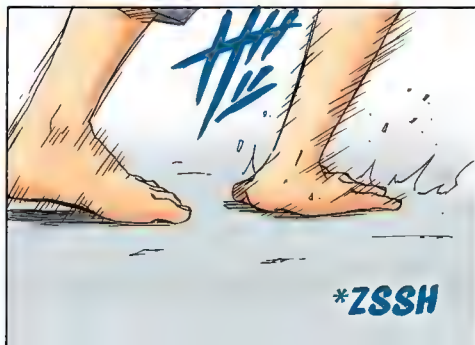
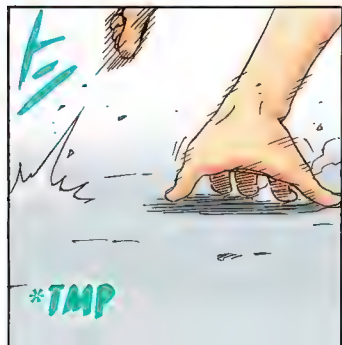
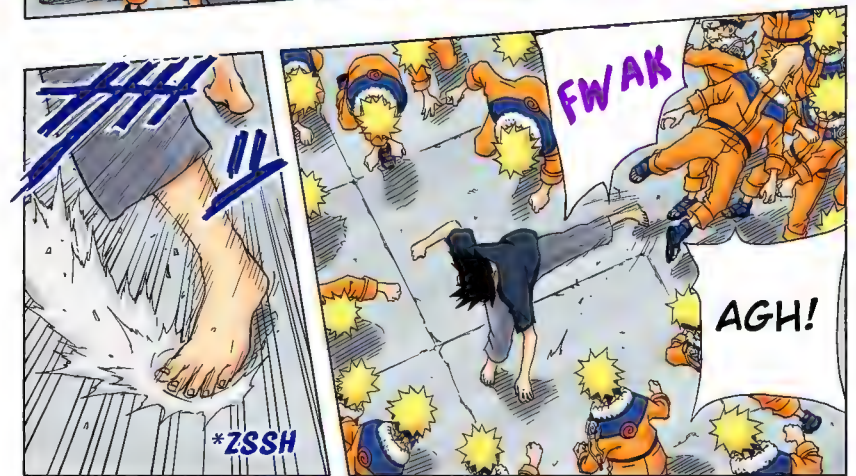
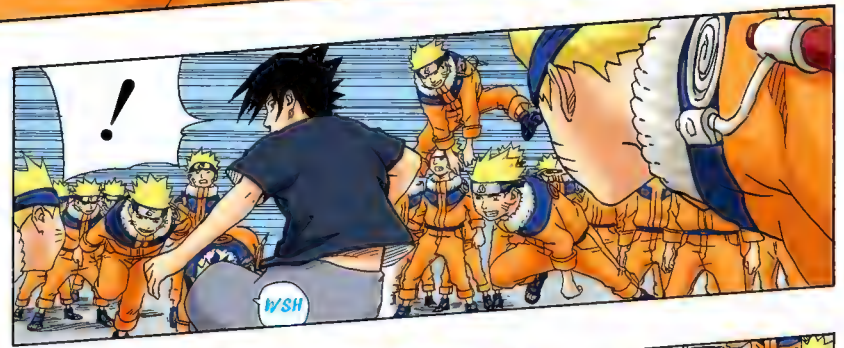
NARUTO!!

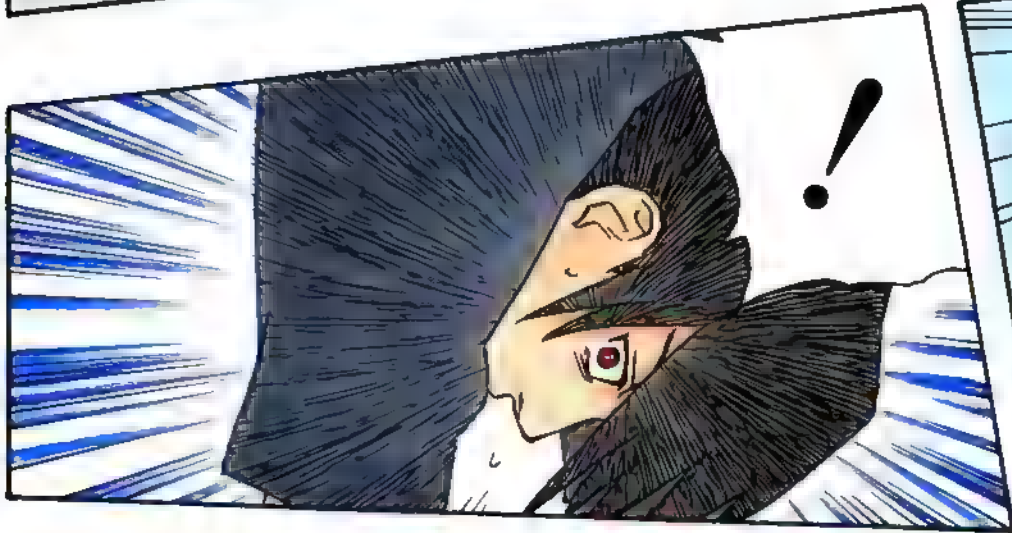


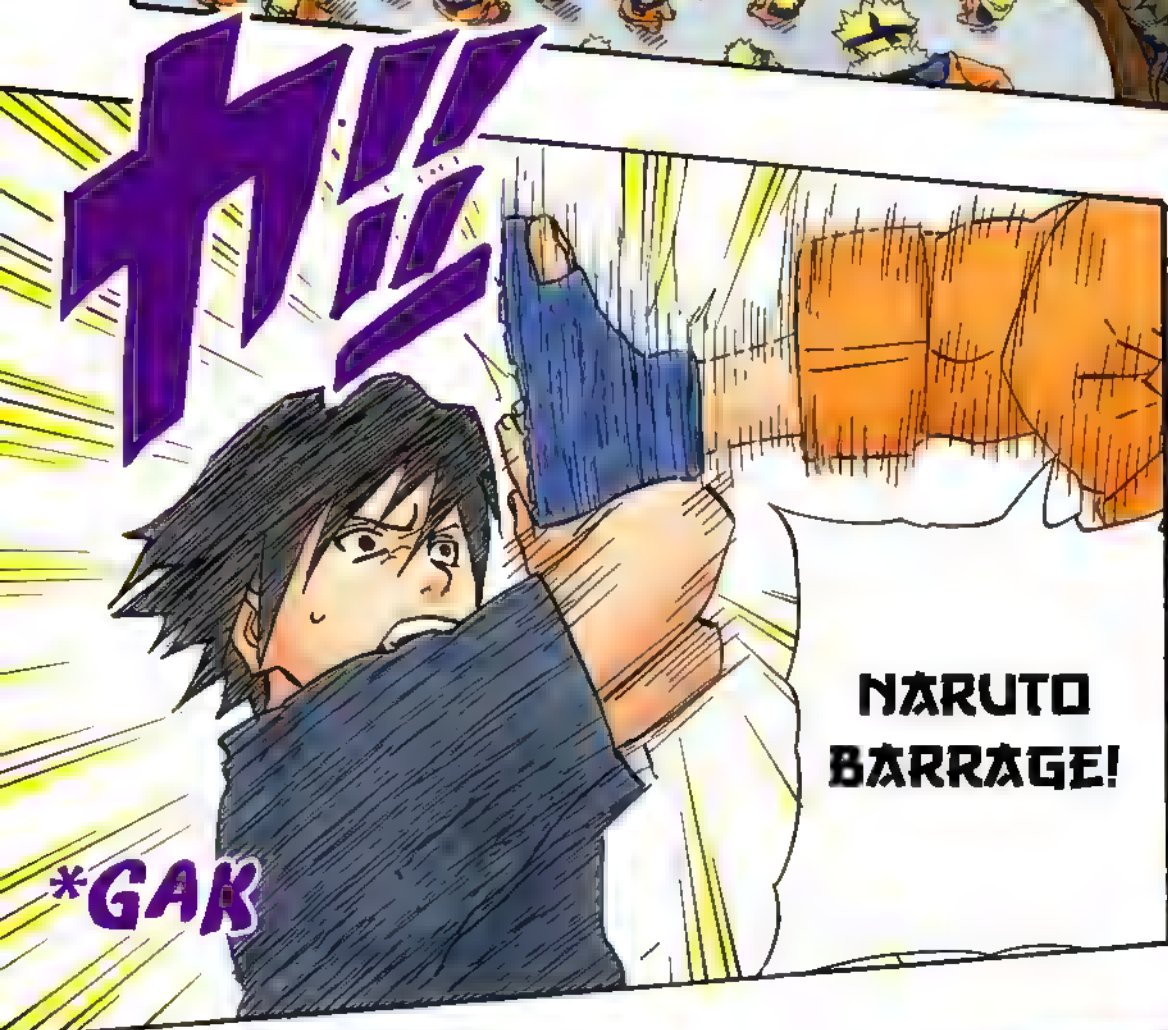
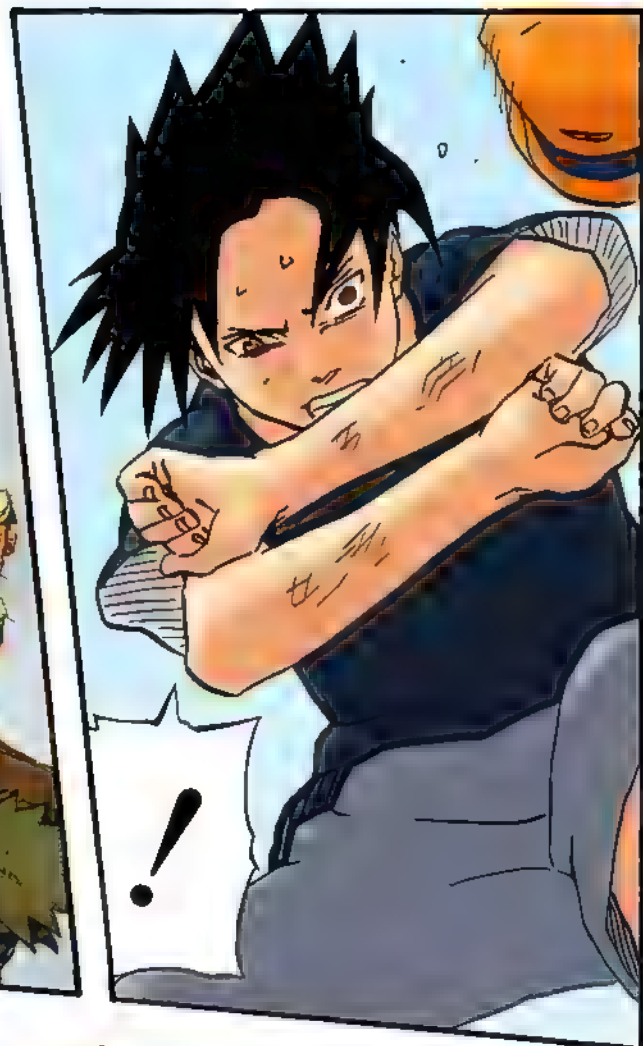
SASUKE!!

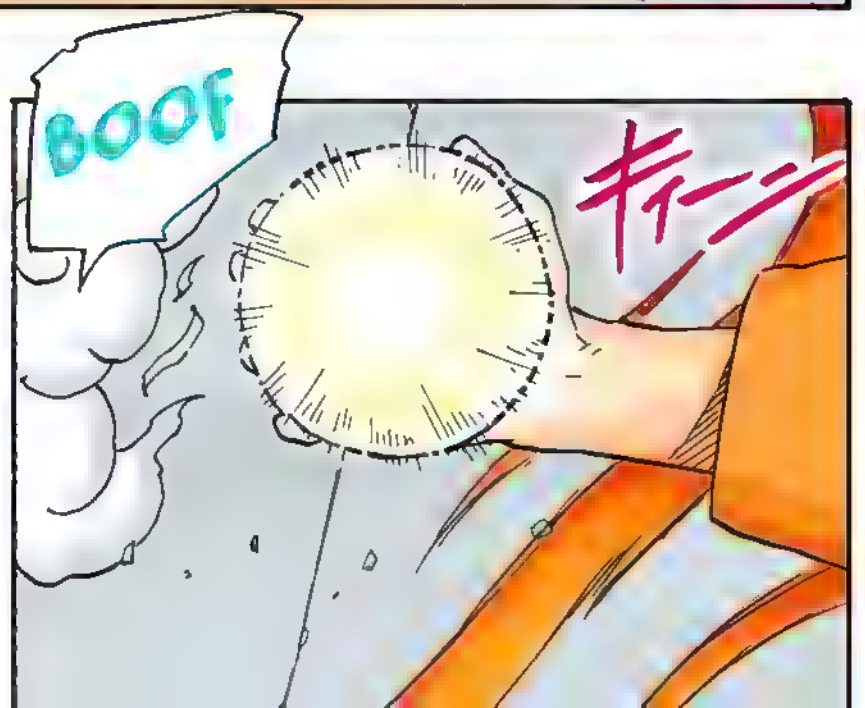
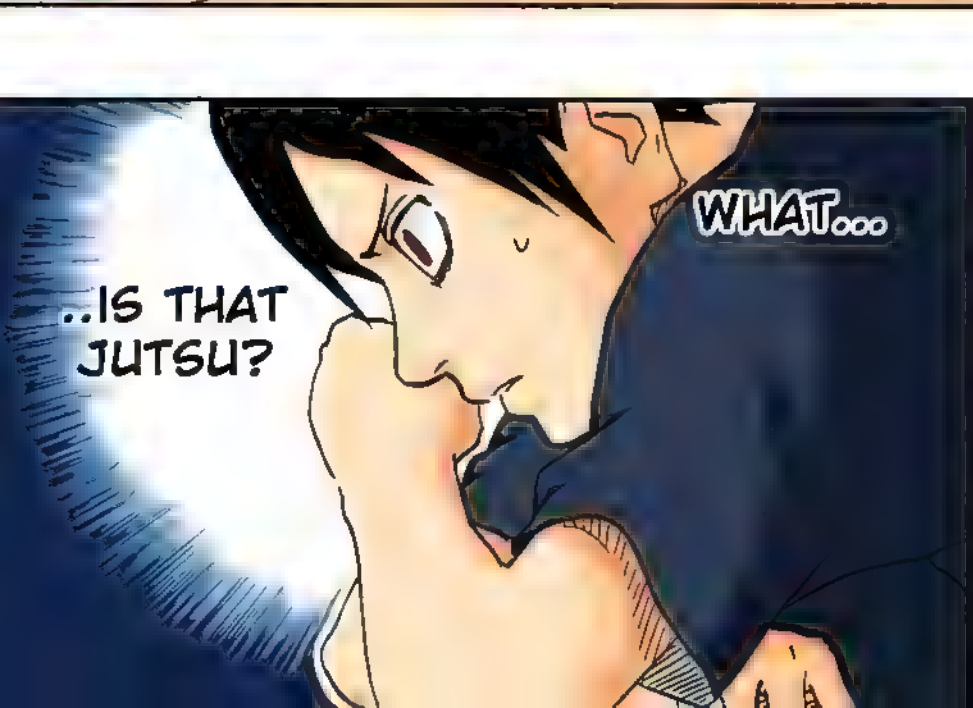






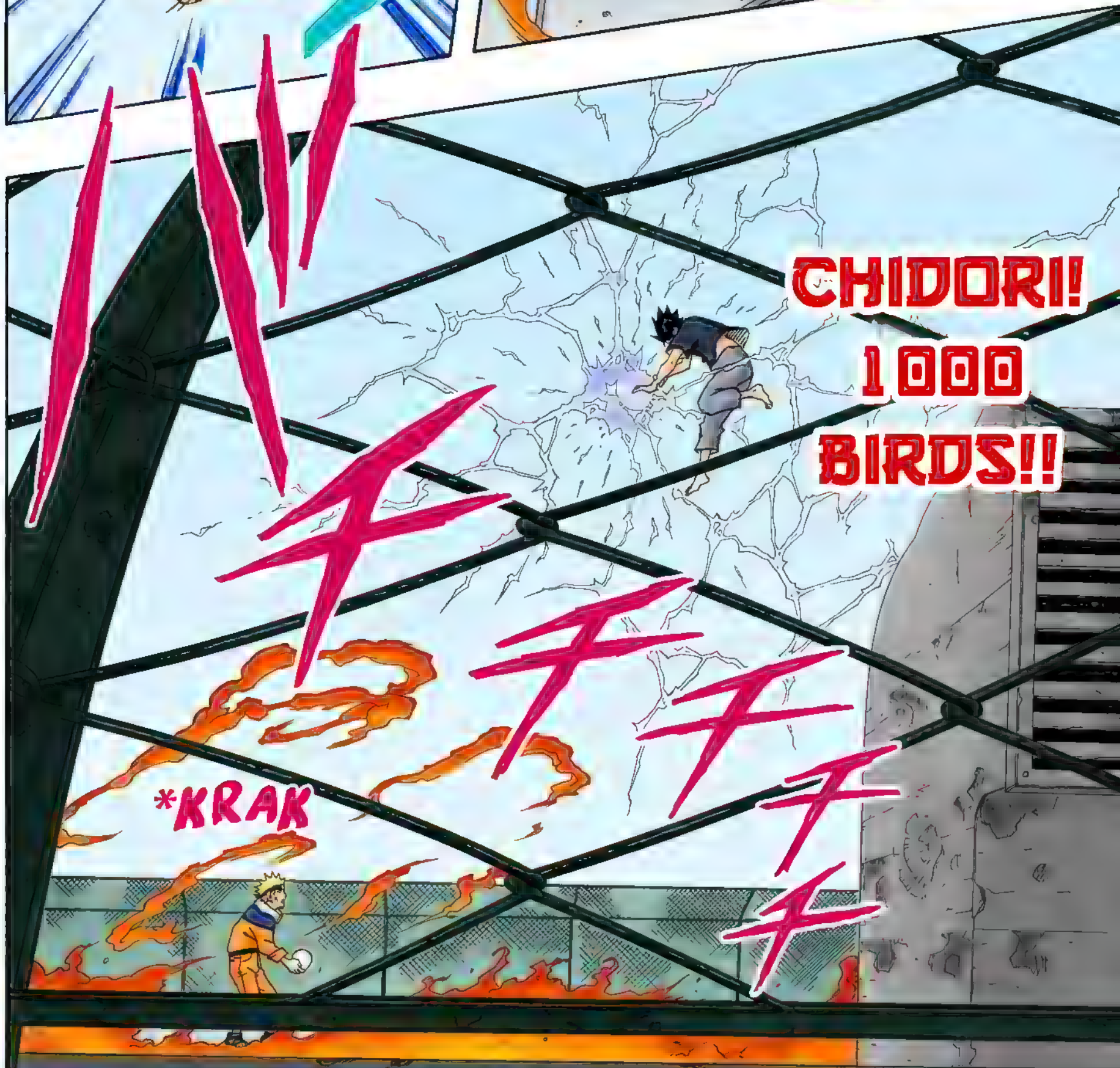




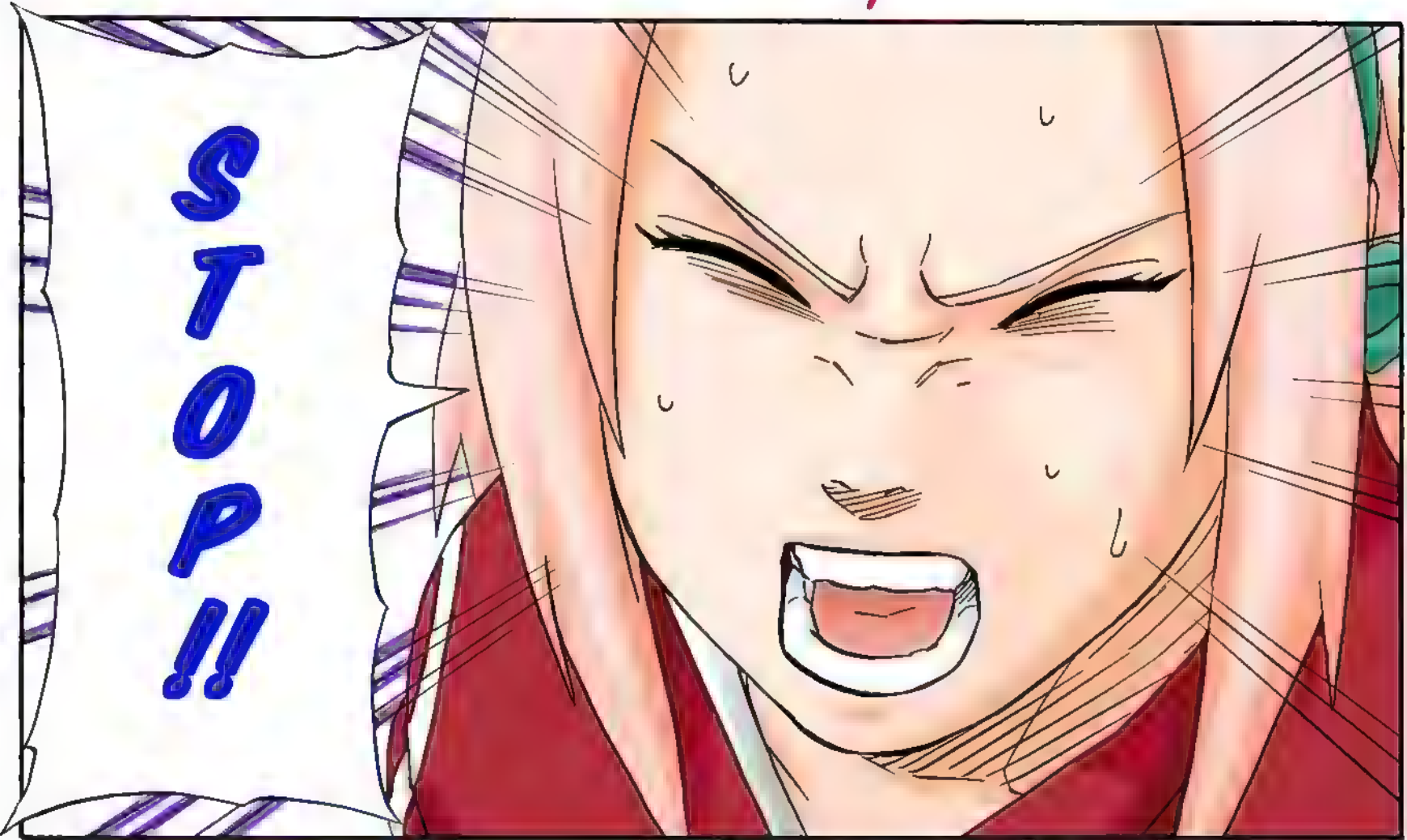
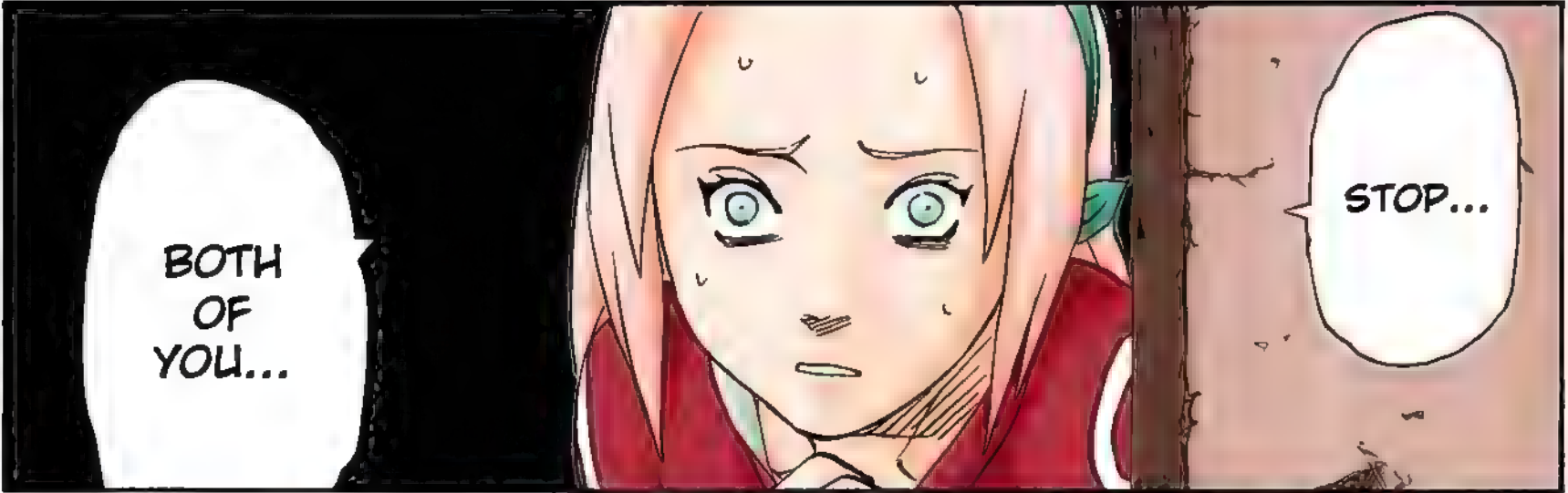




TAKE THIS!



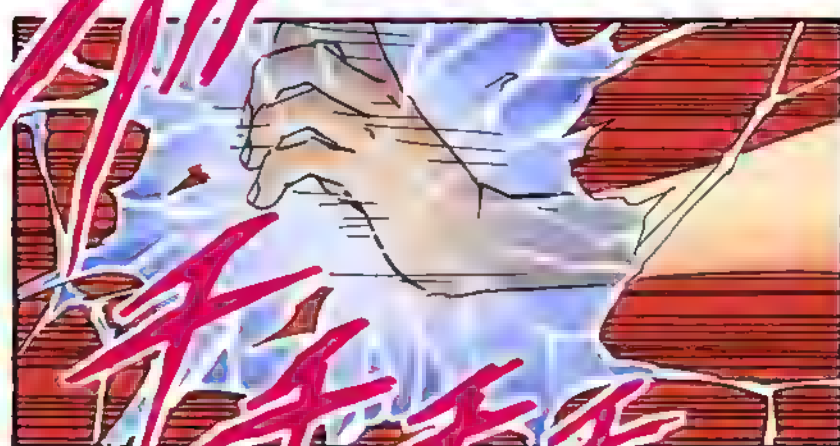
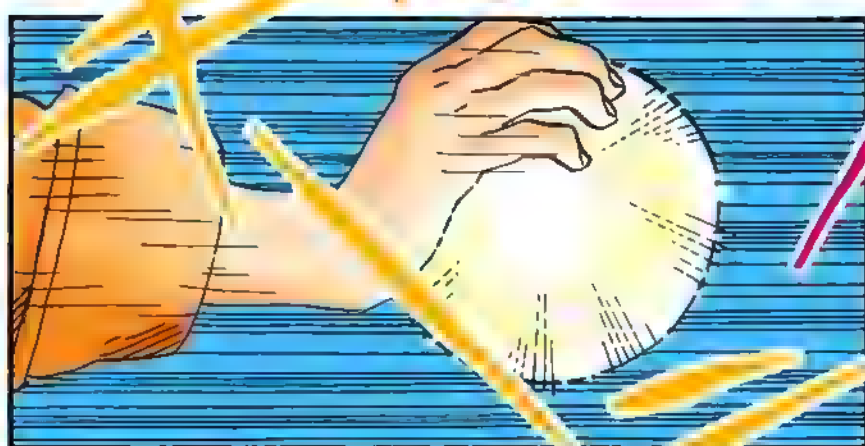
CHIDORI!
1000
BIRDS!!



ナンバー

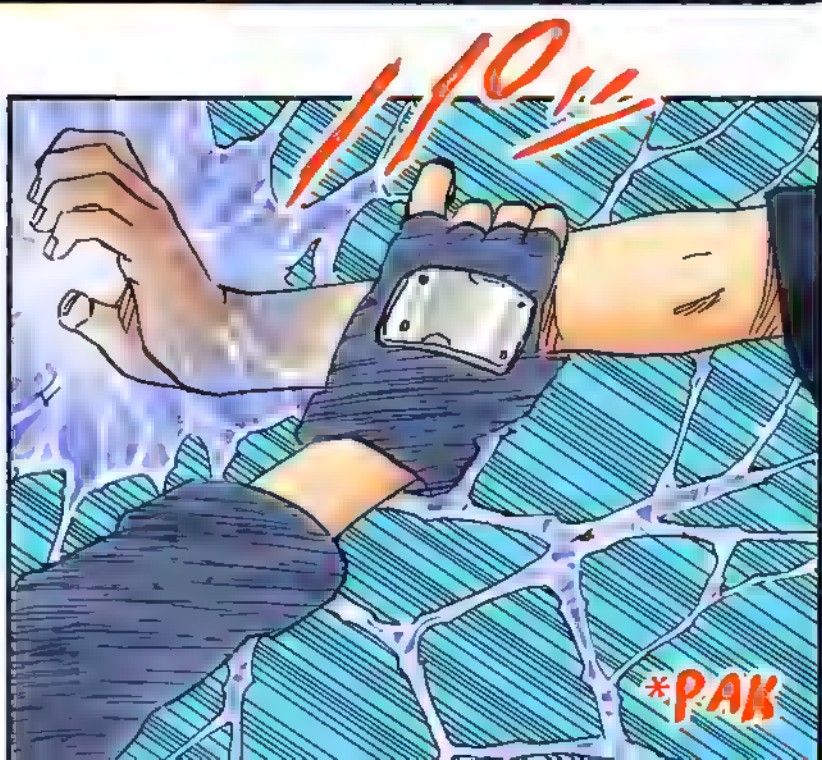
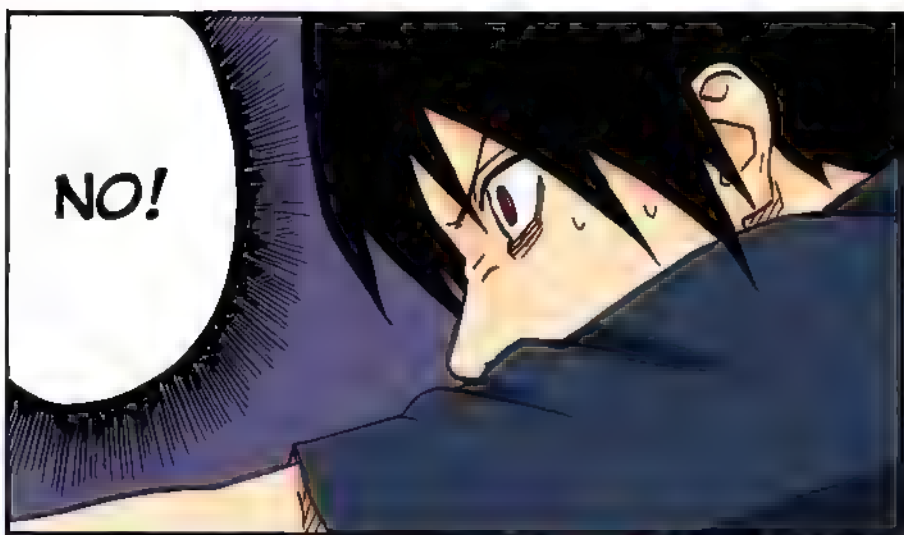
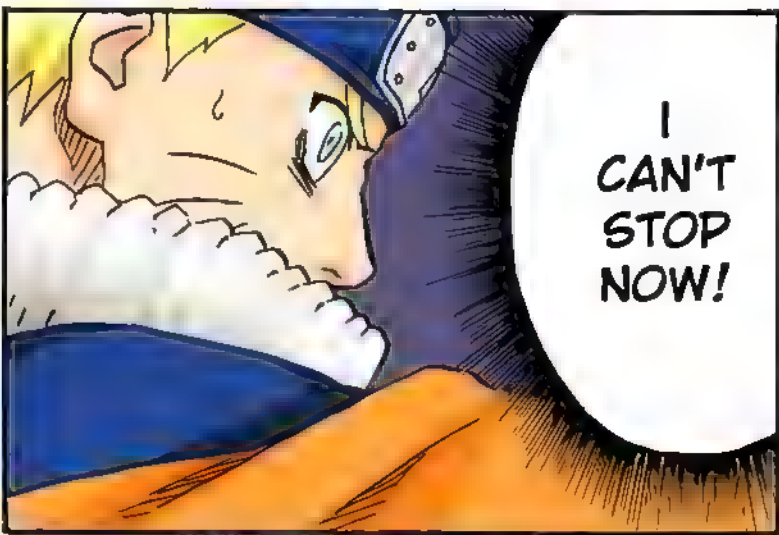
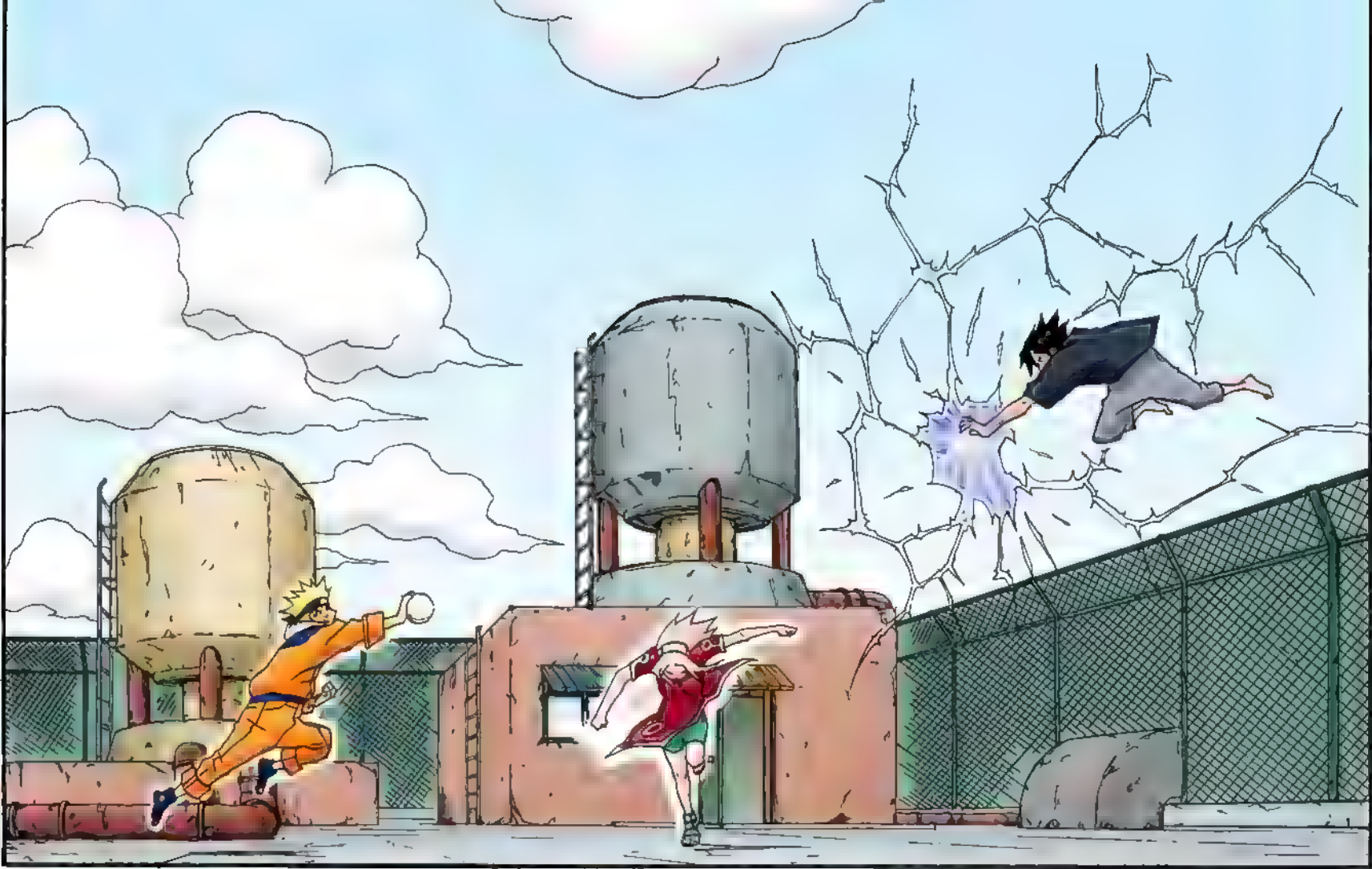
176





*BUZZ



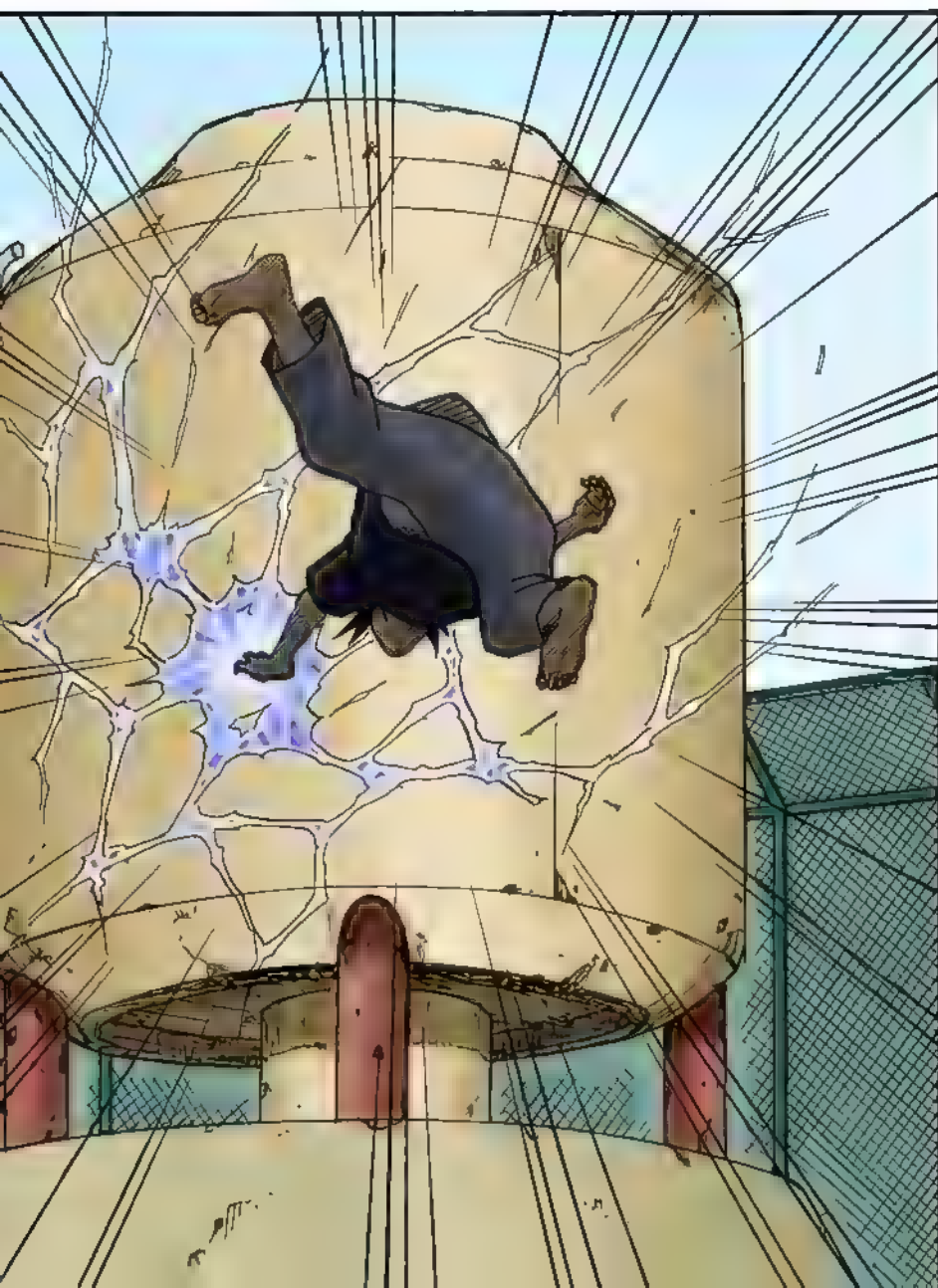
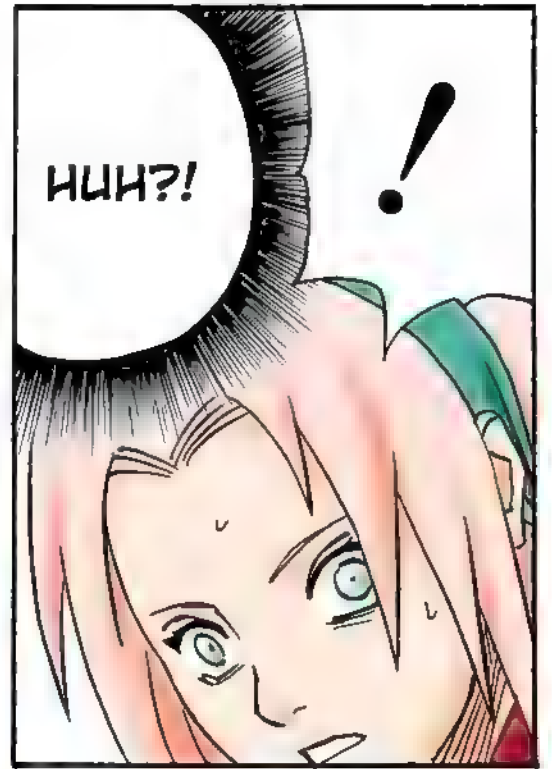


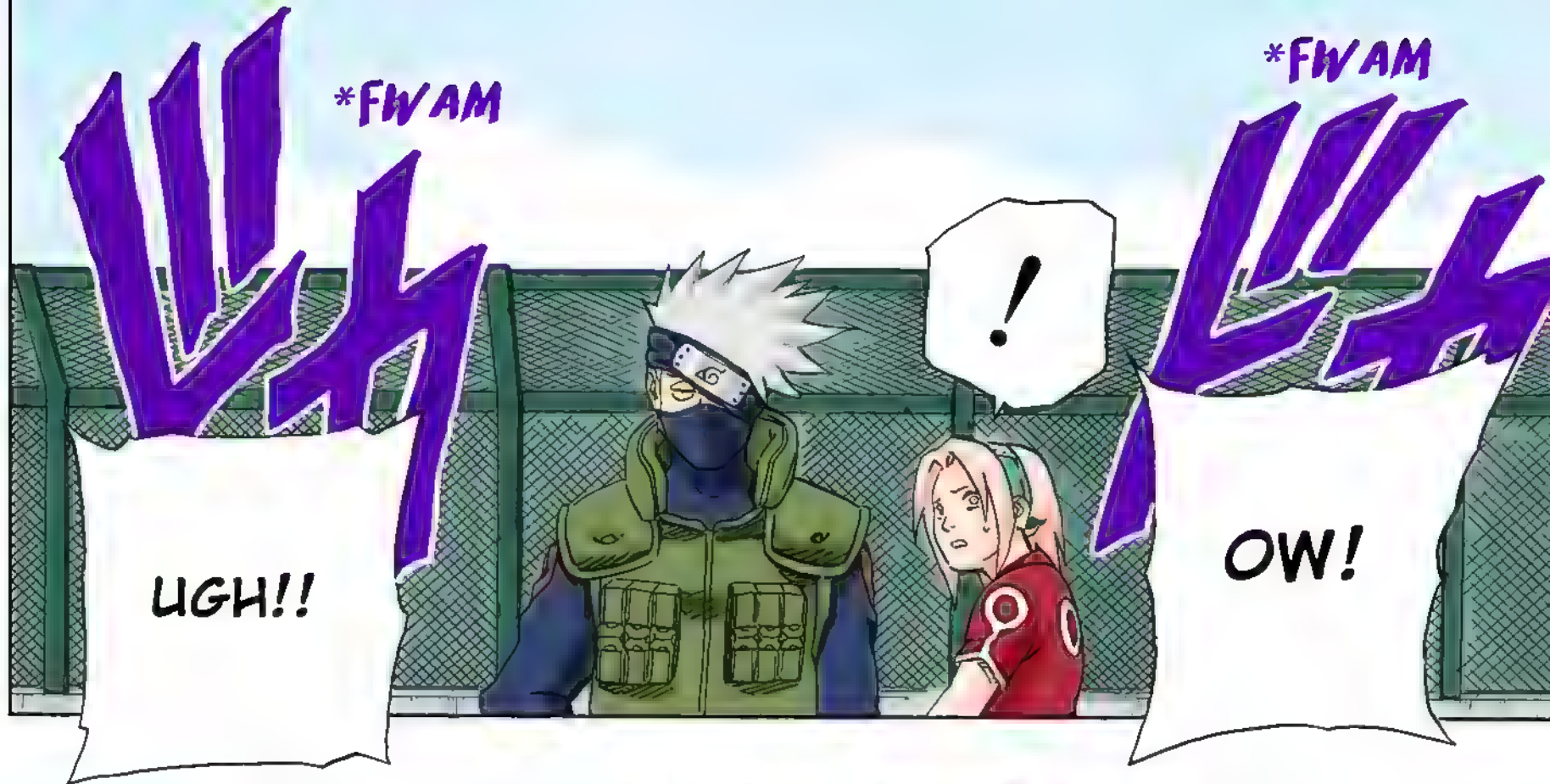
***VW SH**

WAA!

**WHAT
!!!**







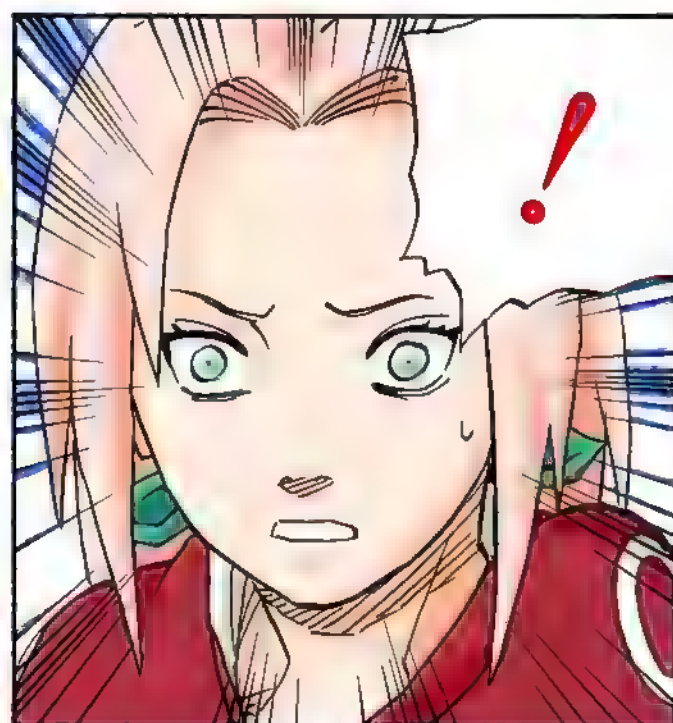
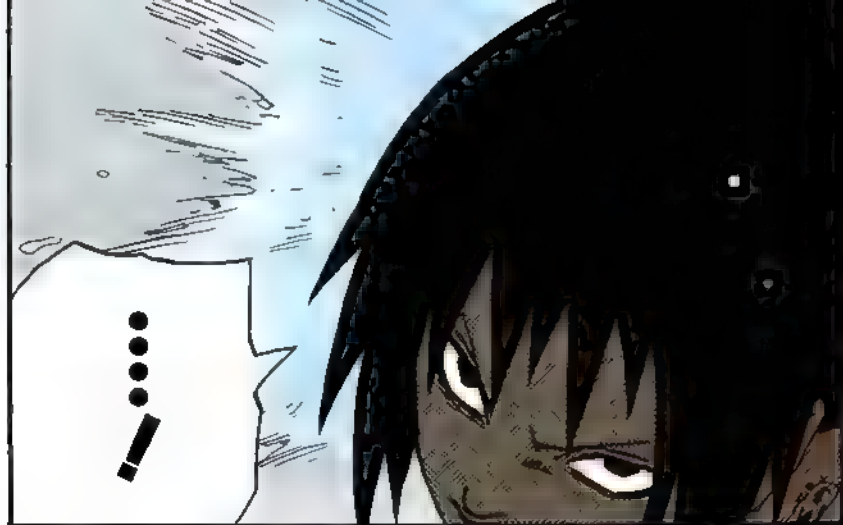


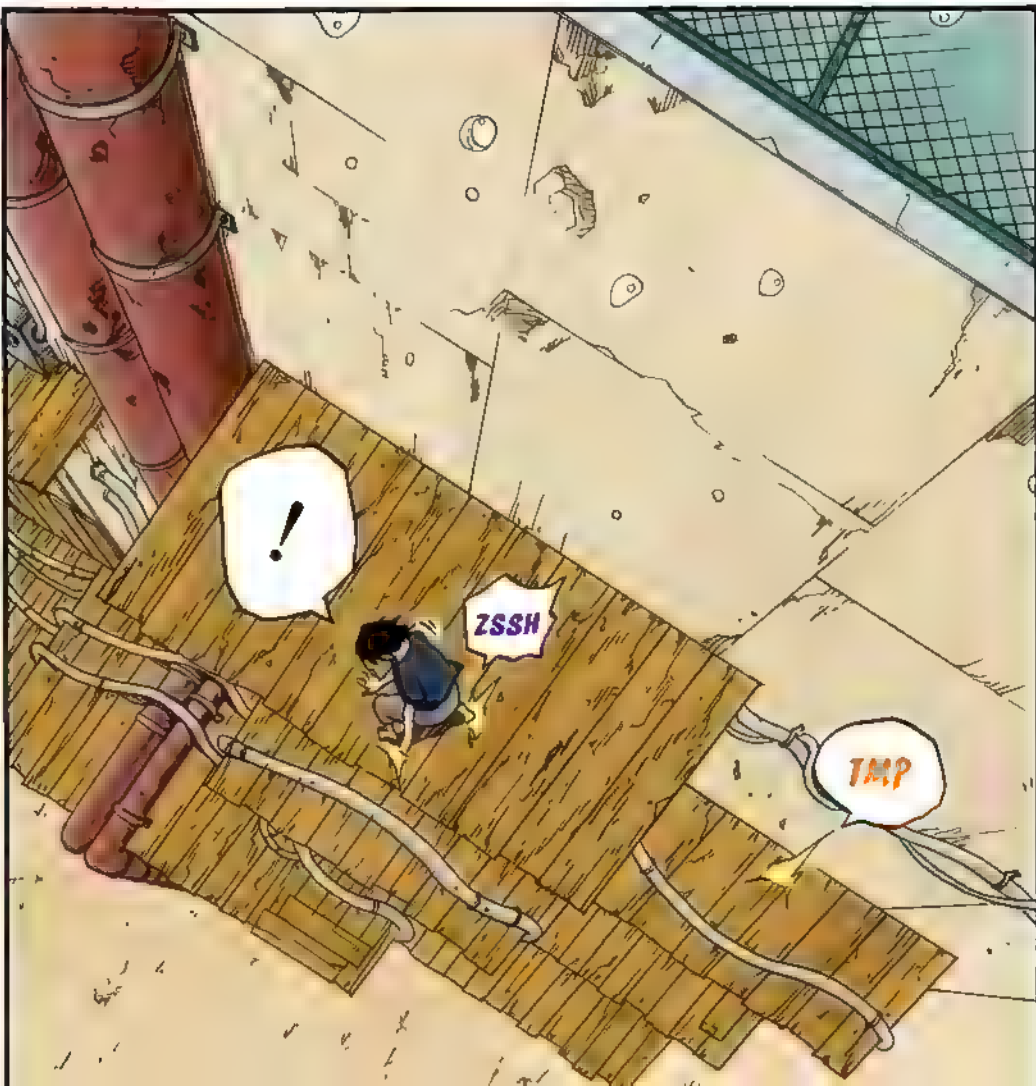
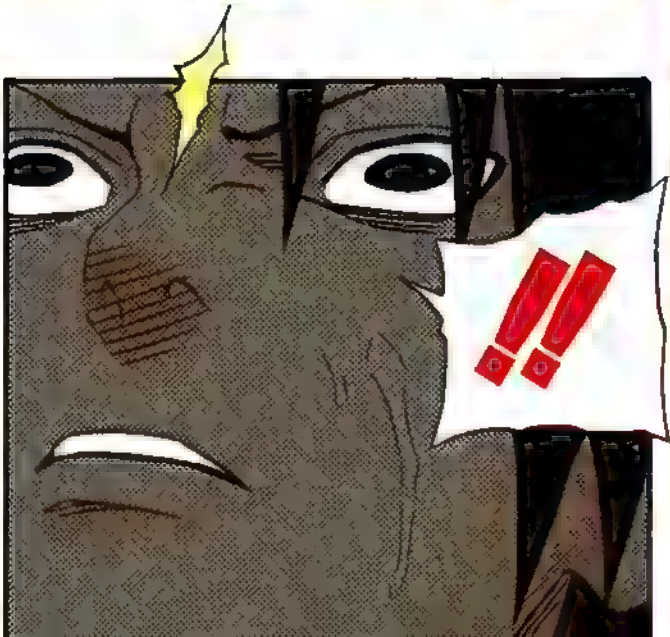
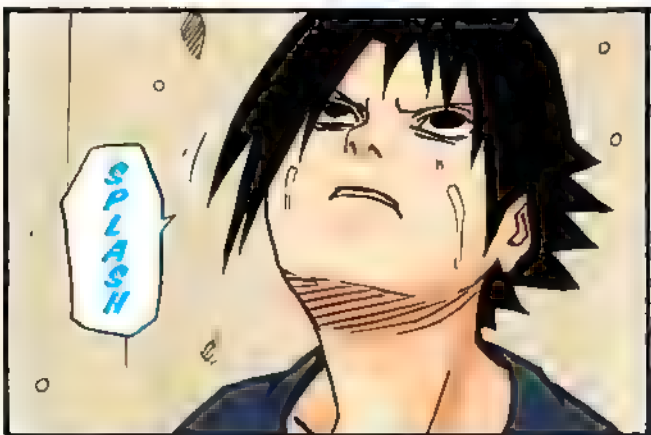
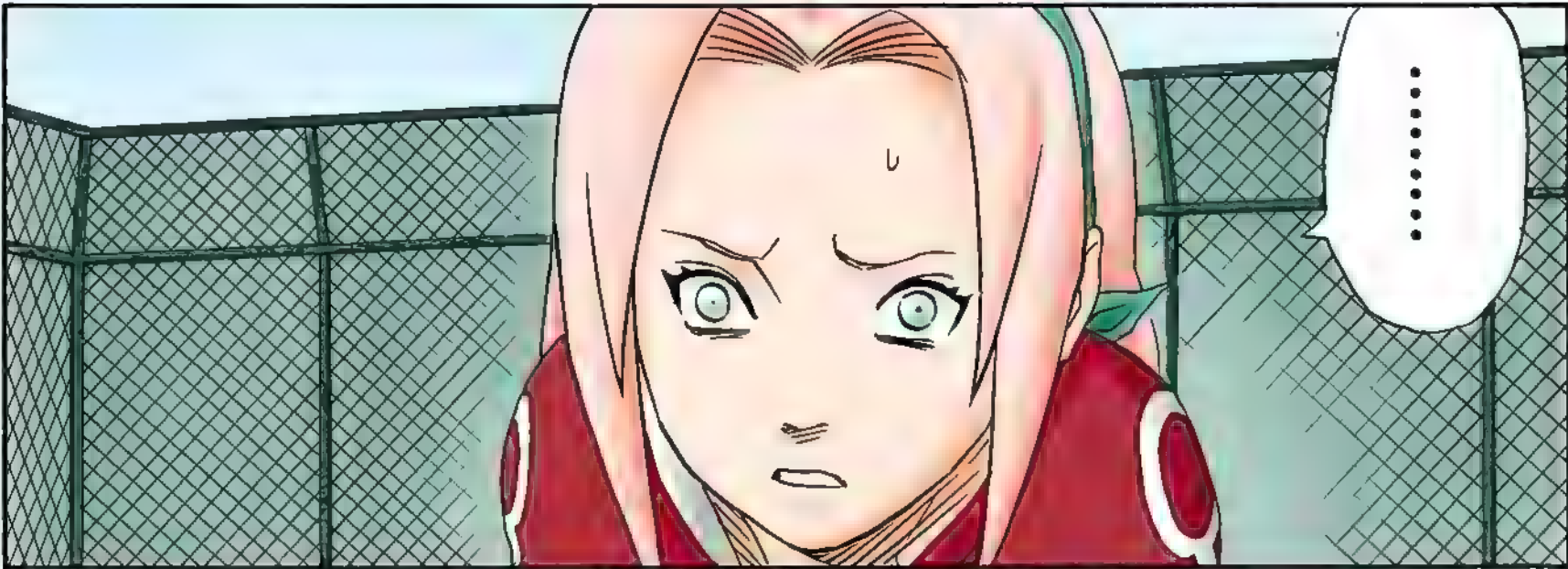
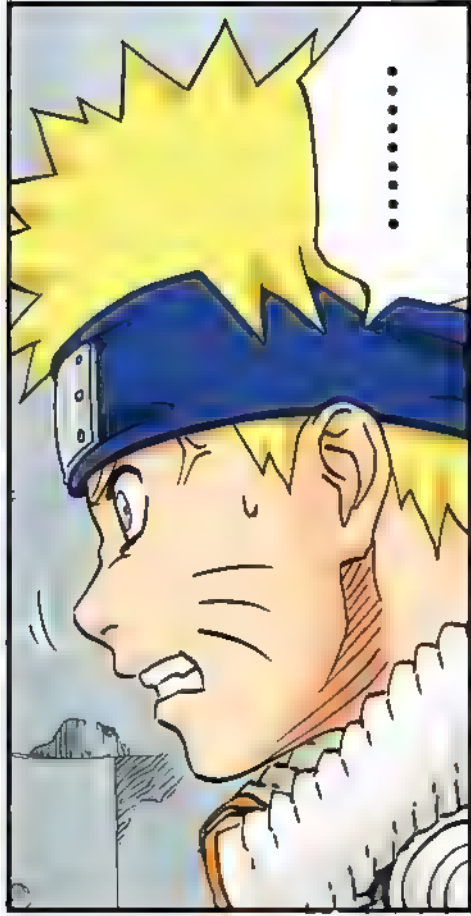
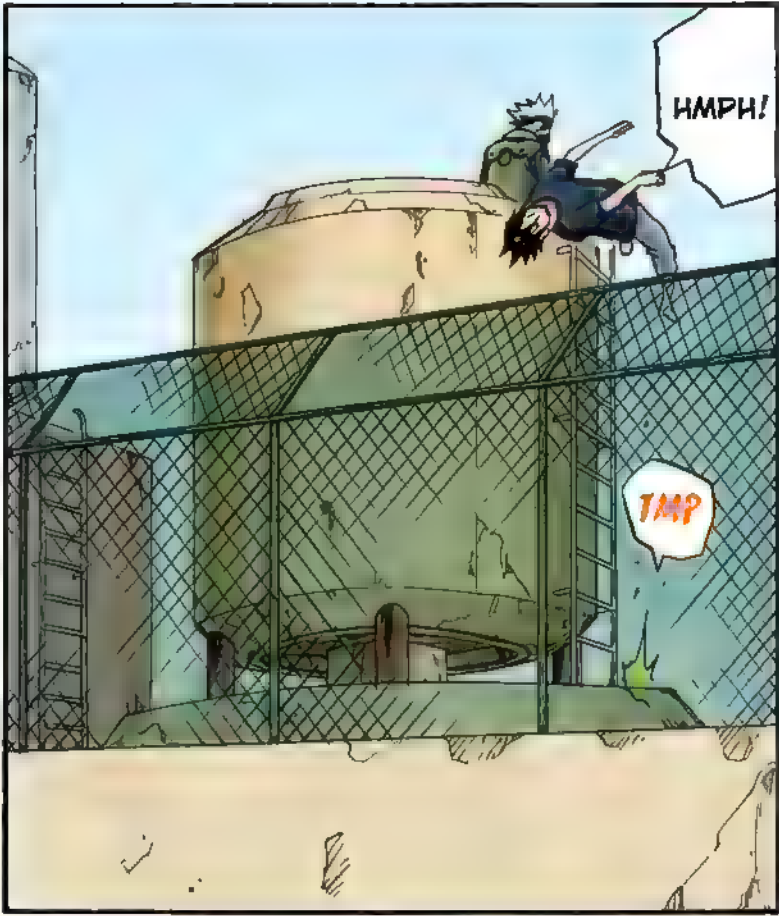
***SLOOSH**

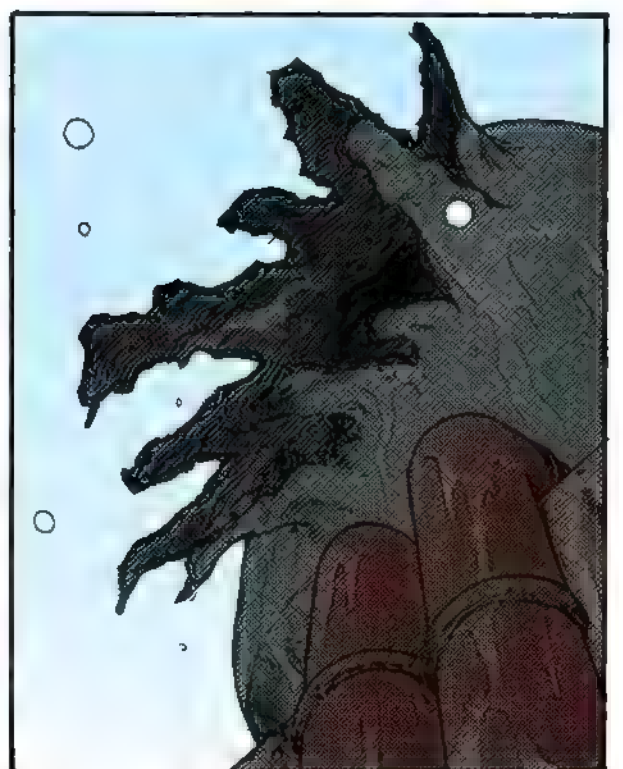
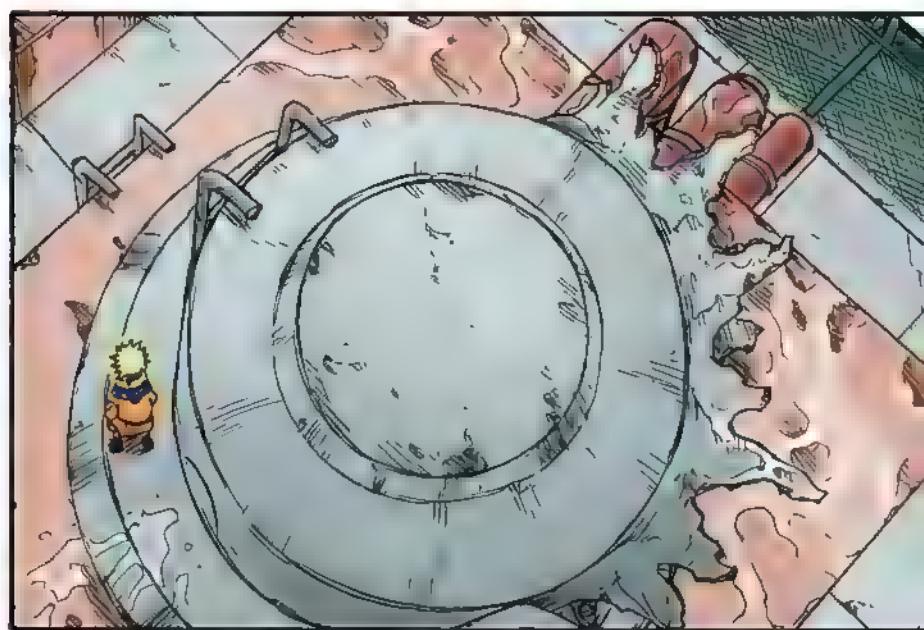
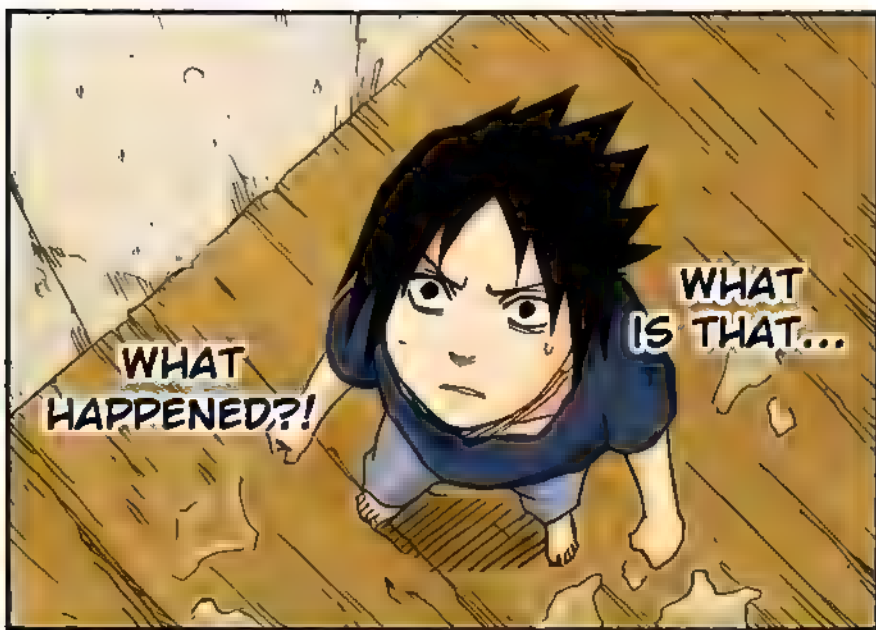


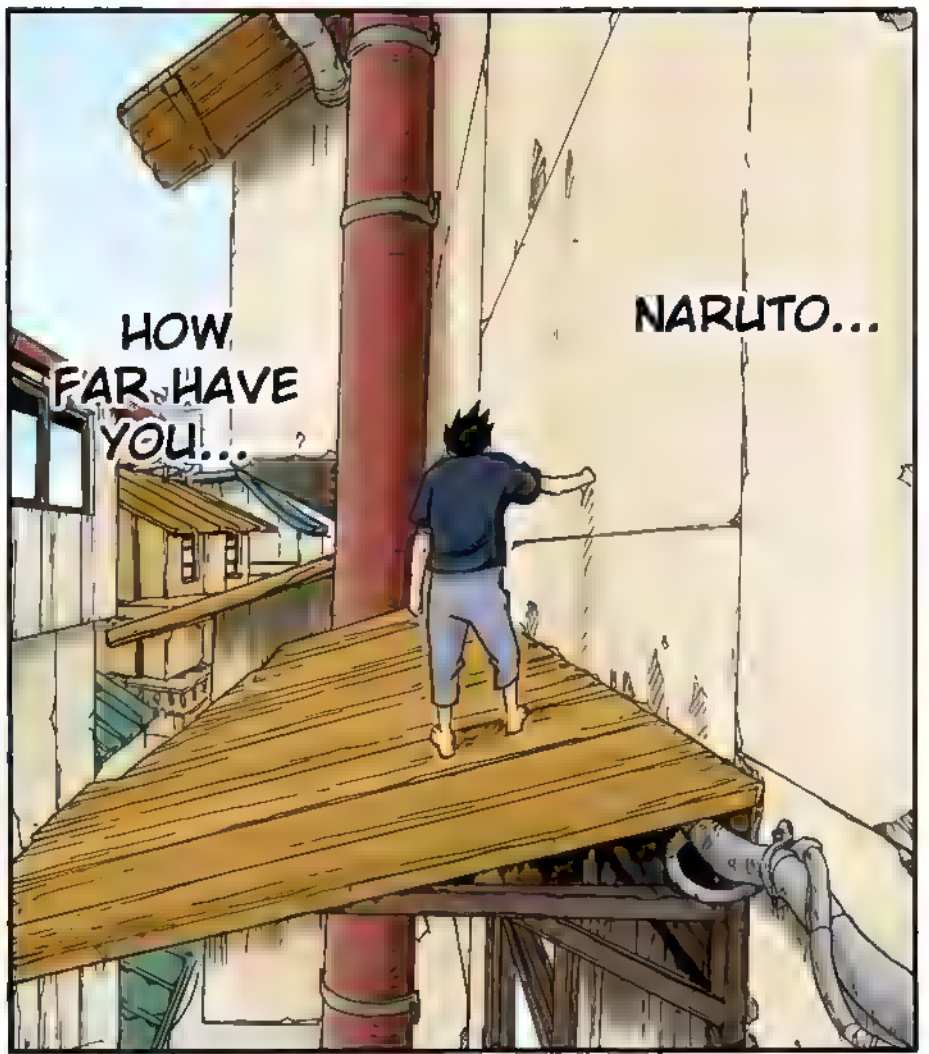
FWFWFW

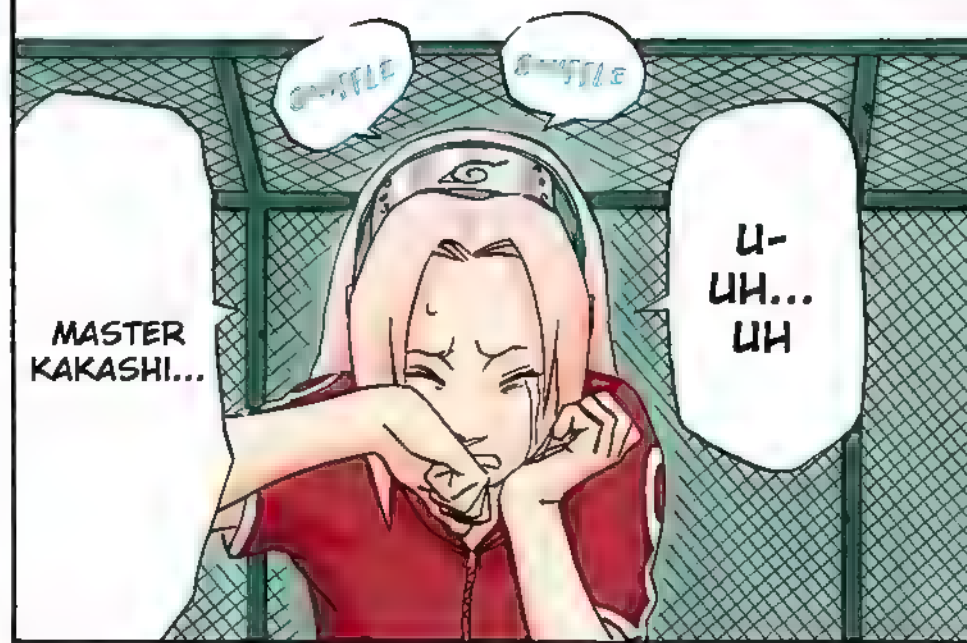


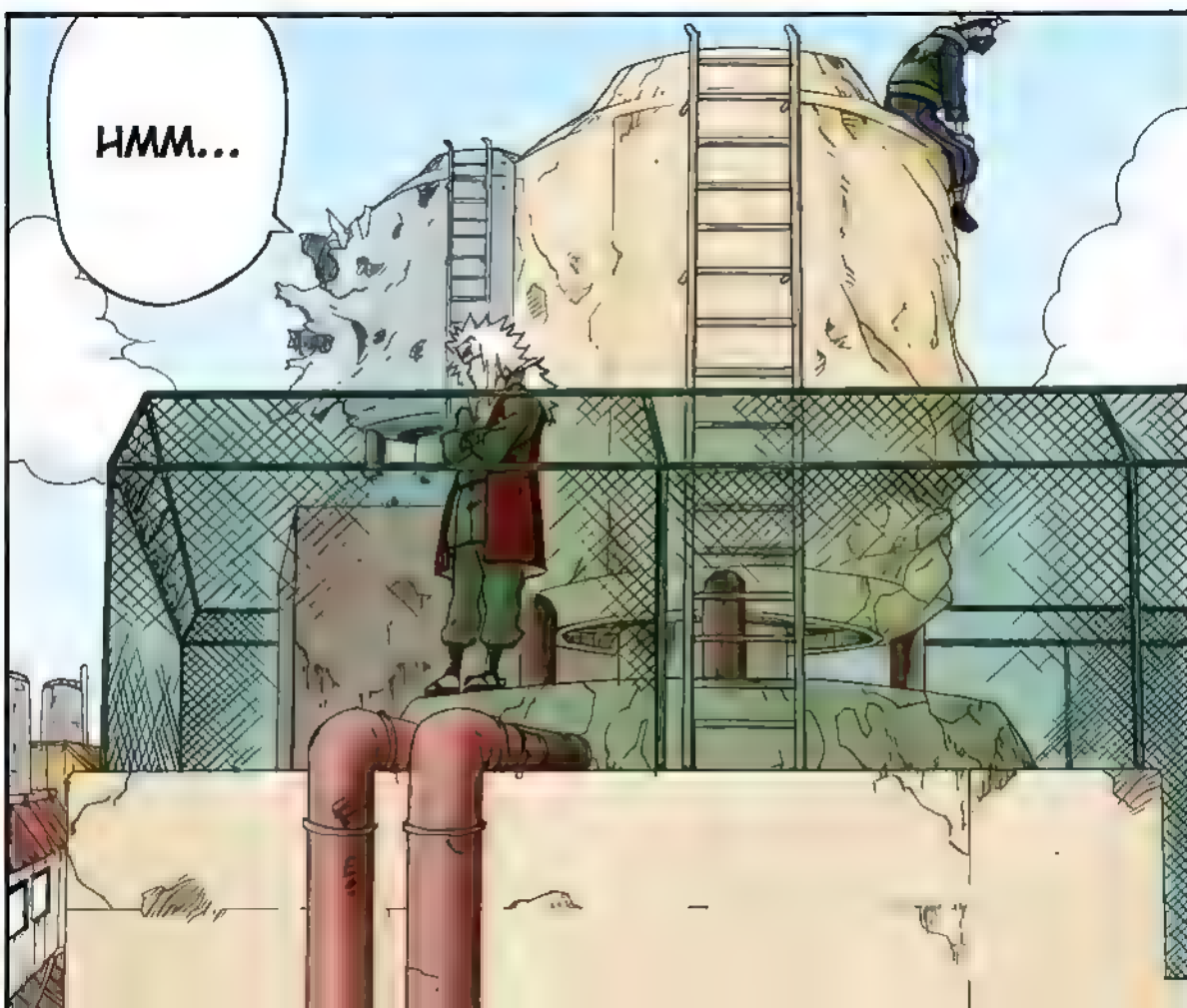














THEIR
COMPETITION
KEEPS THEM
GOING.

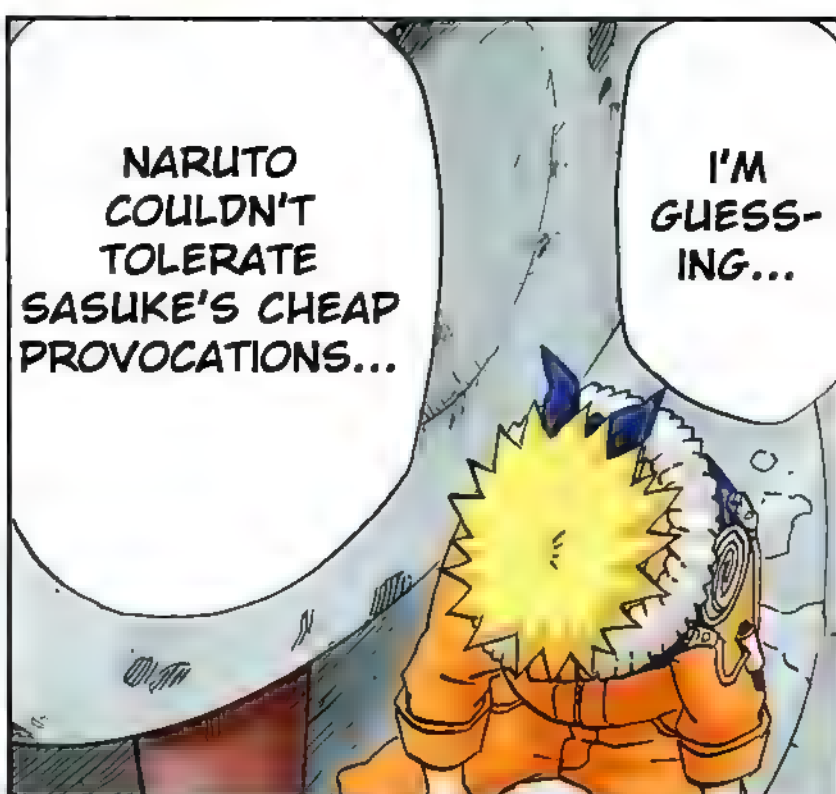
NARUTO AND
SASUKE ARE
BOTH FRIENDS
AND RIVALS...



NARUTO
WANTS TO BE
RECOGNIZED...

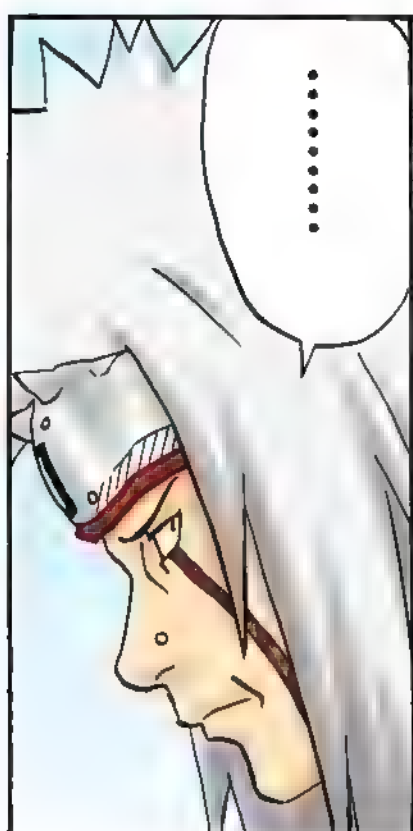
HE'S
WANTED
TO BE AS
STRONG AS
SASUKE...

...SINCE
THEIR
ACADEMY
DAYS.



NARUTO
COULDN'T
TOLERATE
SASUKE'S CHEAP
PROVOCATIONS...

I'M
GUESS-
ING...



.....



BUT...

...BY
SASUKE!

...NOT
BY YOU
OR ME.



TO
KILL...

THERE'S
SOMEONE
I HAVE
SWORN...



HE FEELS
AT RISK OF
BEING LEFT
BEHIND.

NARUTO
HAS INDEED
BECOME
STRONG.

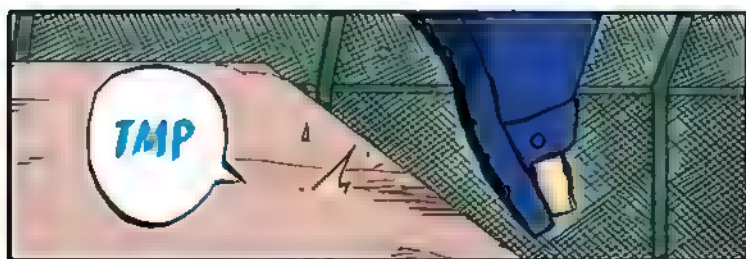
AT THE
SAME TIME,
SASUKE
SENSES THE
CHANGE IN
NARUTO...

...AND IS
FEELING
INFERIOR.

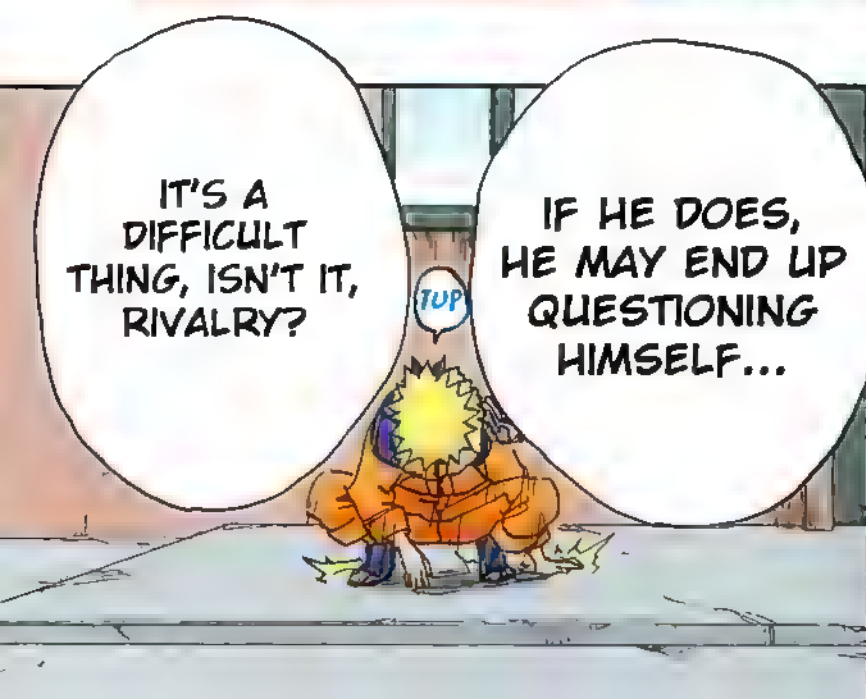


IS IT
ITACHI
MAKING
THAT BOY SO
ANXIOUS...?

IS IT
REVENGE...?



TMP



IT'S A
DIFFICULT
THING, ISN'T IT,
RIVALRY?

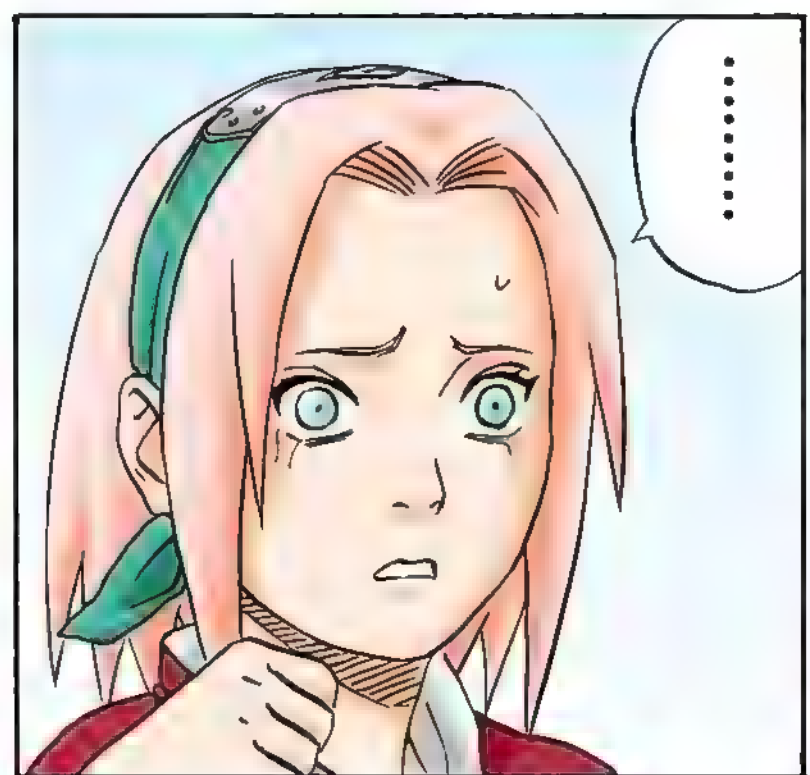
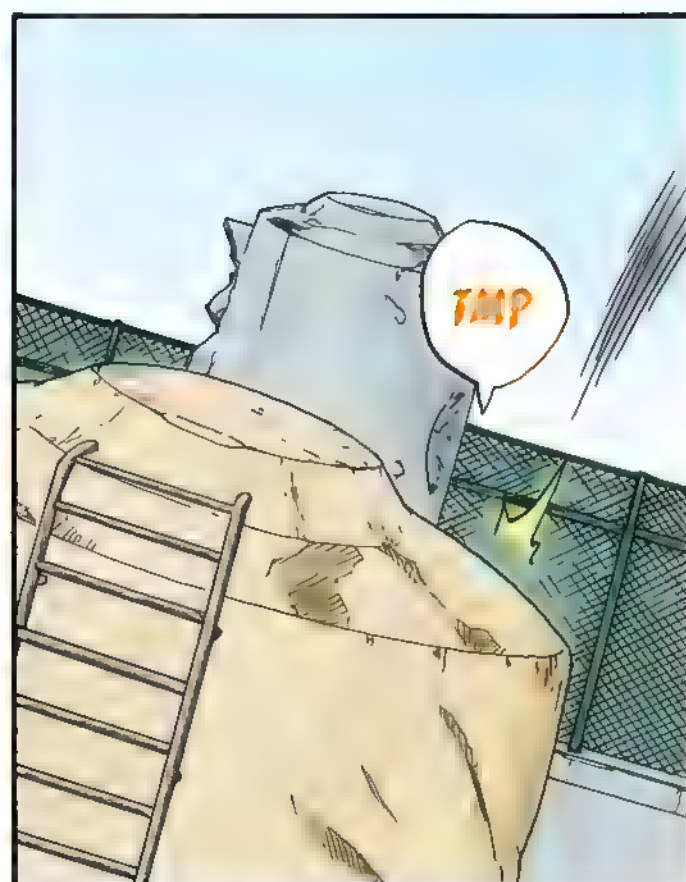
TUP

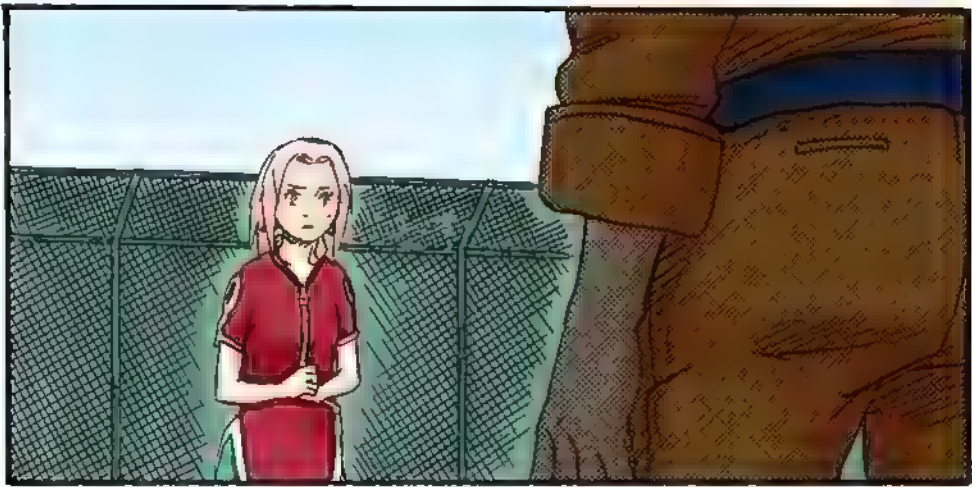
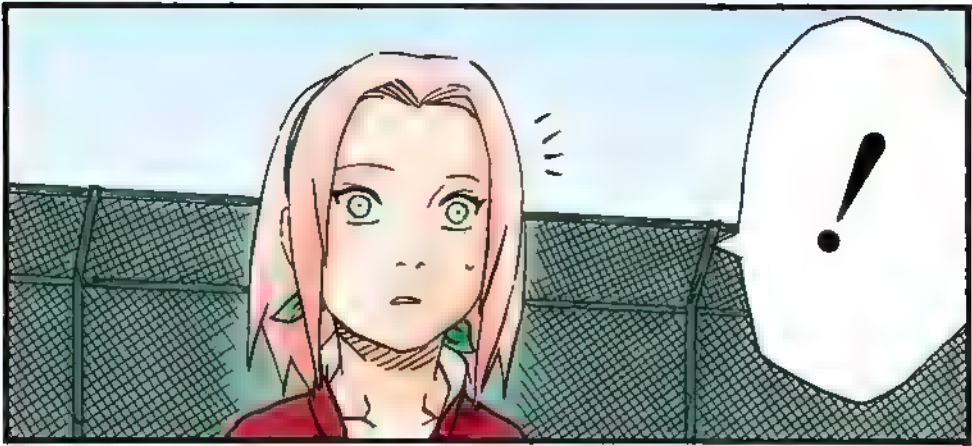
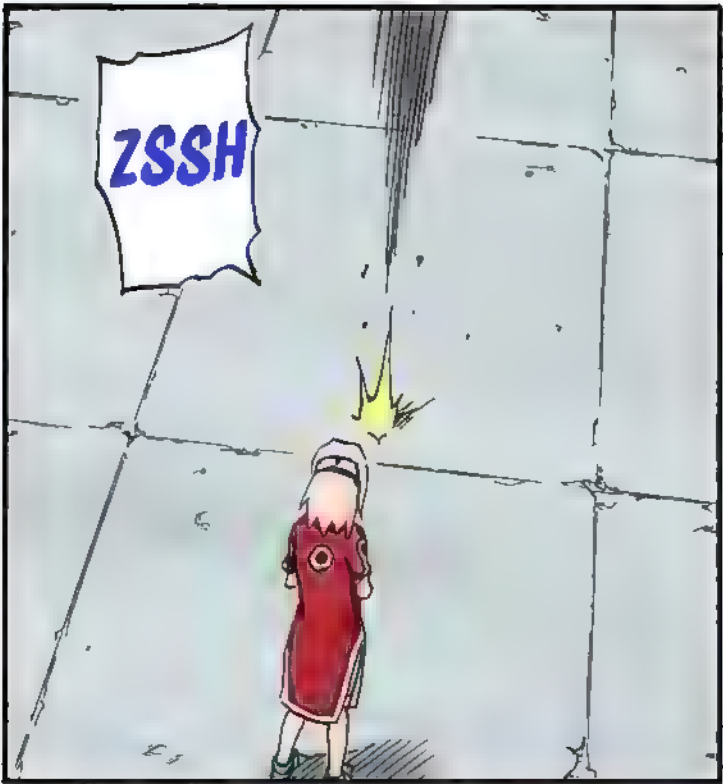
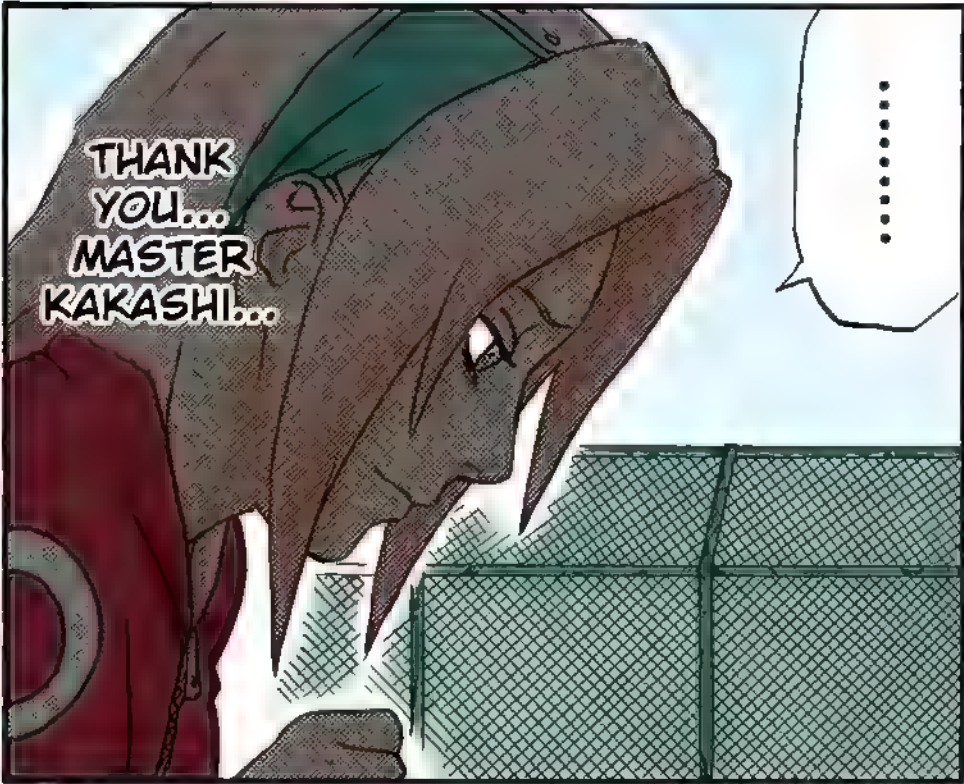
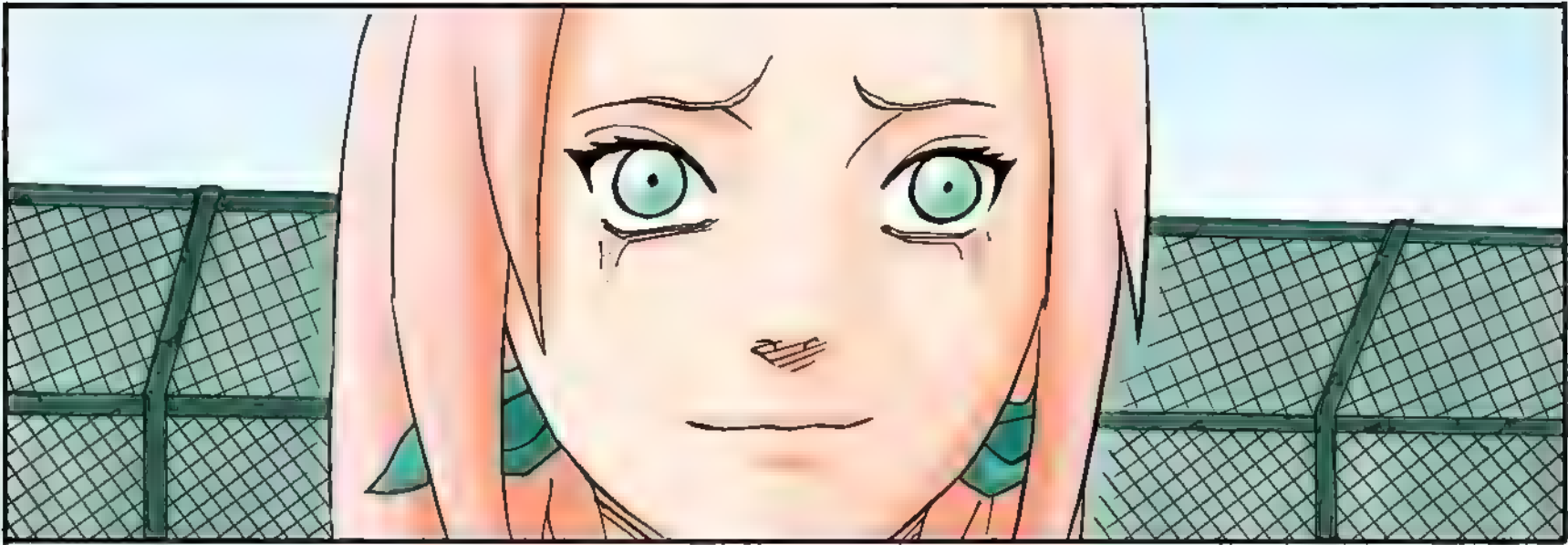
IF HE DOES,
HE MAY END UP
QUESTIONING
HIMSELF...

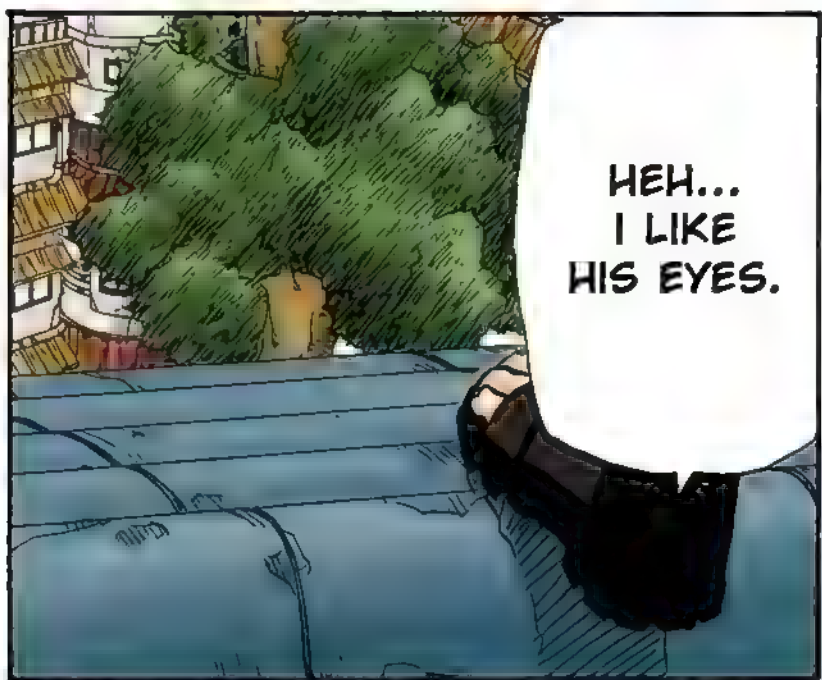


THAT'S WHY
SASUKE
DOESN'T
WANT TO
RECOGNIZE
NARUTO'S
CHANGE...

TUP









ナンバー



177

:

THE SOUND NINJA FOUR





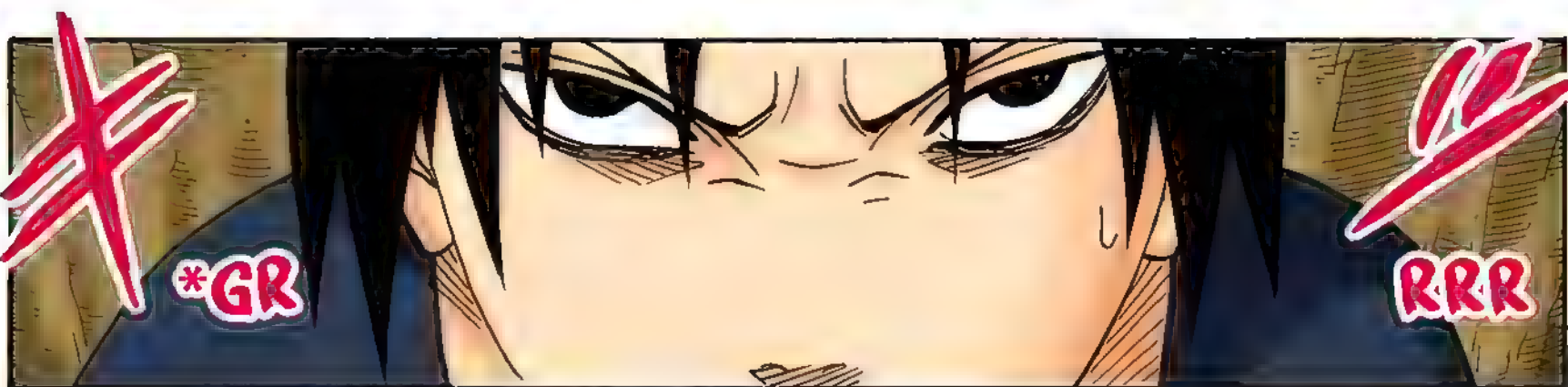


SASUKE,
FORGET
ABOUT
GETTING
REVENGE.

.....



ARGH!



*GR

RRR



IS
NEVER
GOOD...
IT'S QUITE
TRAGIC
ACTUALLY.

THE
FATE OF
THOSE WHO
SPEAK OF
REVENGE...



I'VE
SEEN A
LOT OF
KIDS LIKE
YOU.

ALTHOUGH!
IN MY LINE
OF WORK...



EVEN IF
YOUR REVENGE
IS A SUCCESS...
ALL THAT'LL
COME OF IT
IS EMPTINESS.

YOU'LL
ONLY END
UP HURTING
AND SUFFERING
MORE THAN
YOU ARE NOW.



CALM
DOWN...



YOU
THINK
YOU'RE A
GENIUS?!

WHAT
D'YOU
KNOW?!



...THE
PERSON
MOST
PRECIOUS
TO YOU!

I
COULD
KILL...

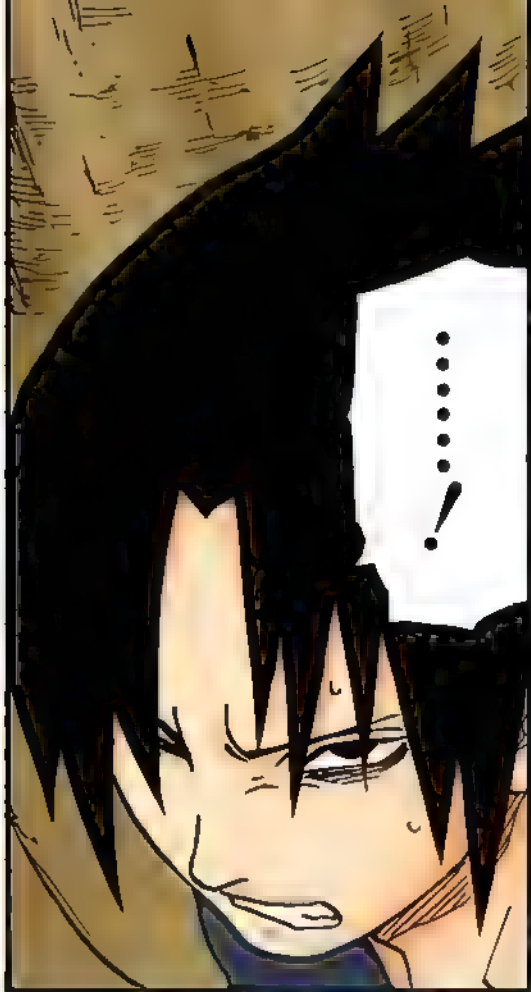


.....



...JUST
HOW
WRONG
YOU ARE
ABOUT
ME.

THEN
YOU'D
KNOW...



...!
!



BUT
UNFORTU-
NATELY

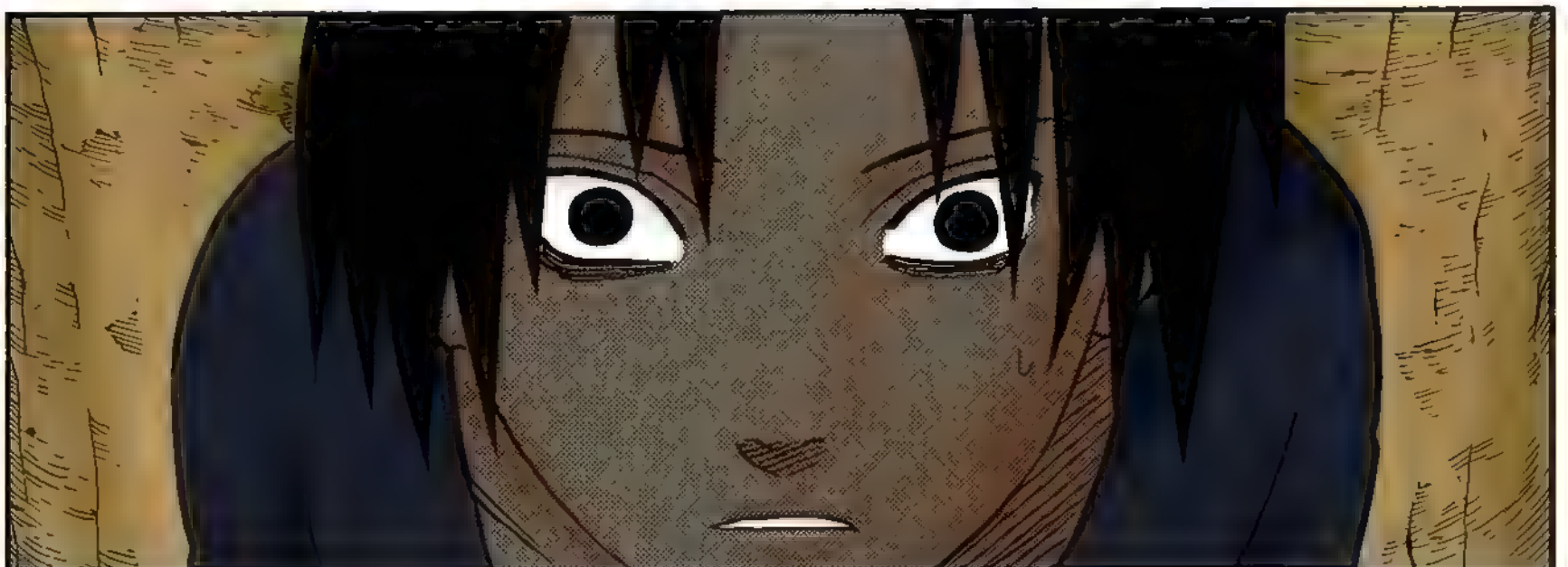
I
DON'T
HAVE
ANYONE
SPECIAL
LEFT.

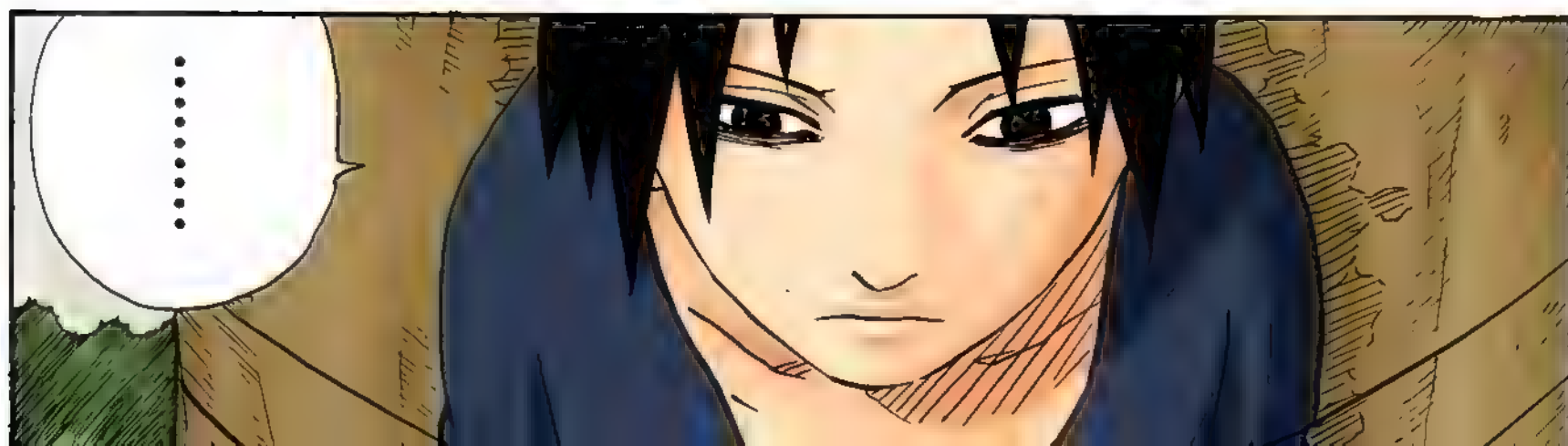
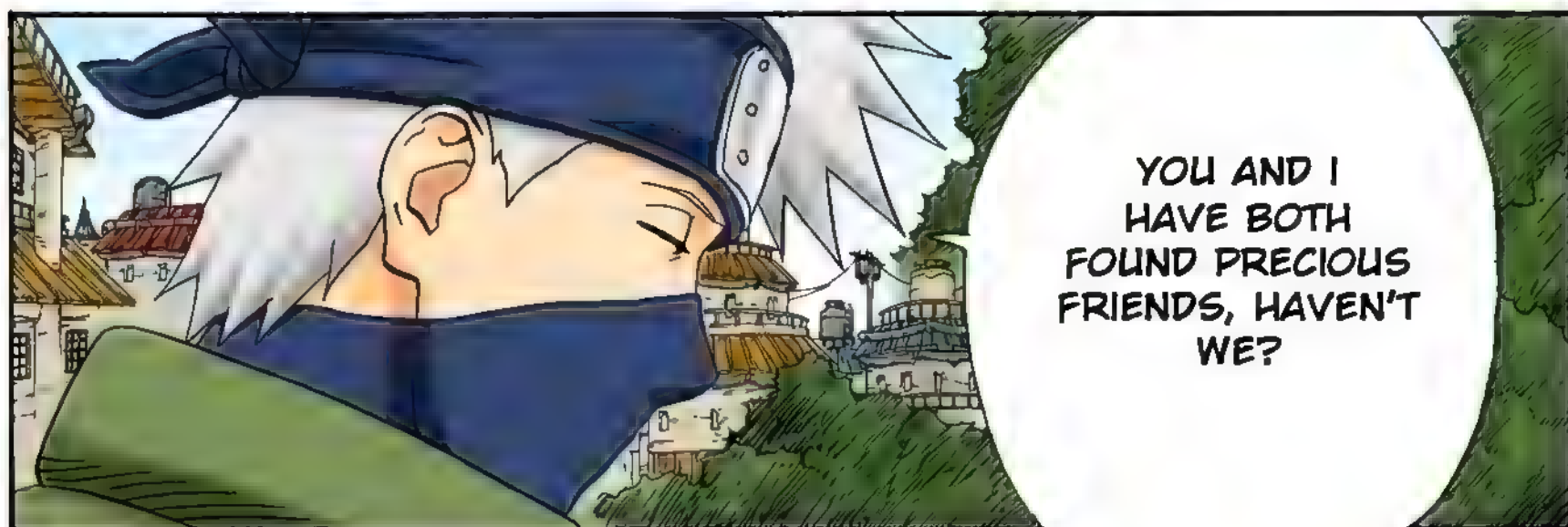
WELL,
I SUPPOSE
YOU COULD...

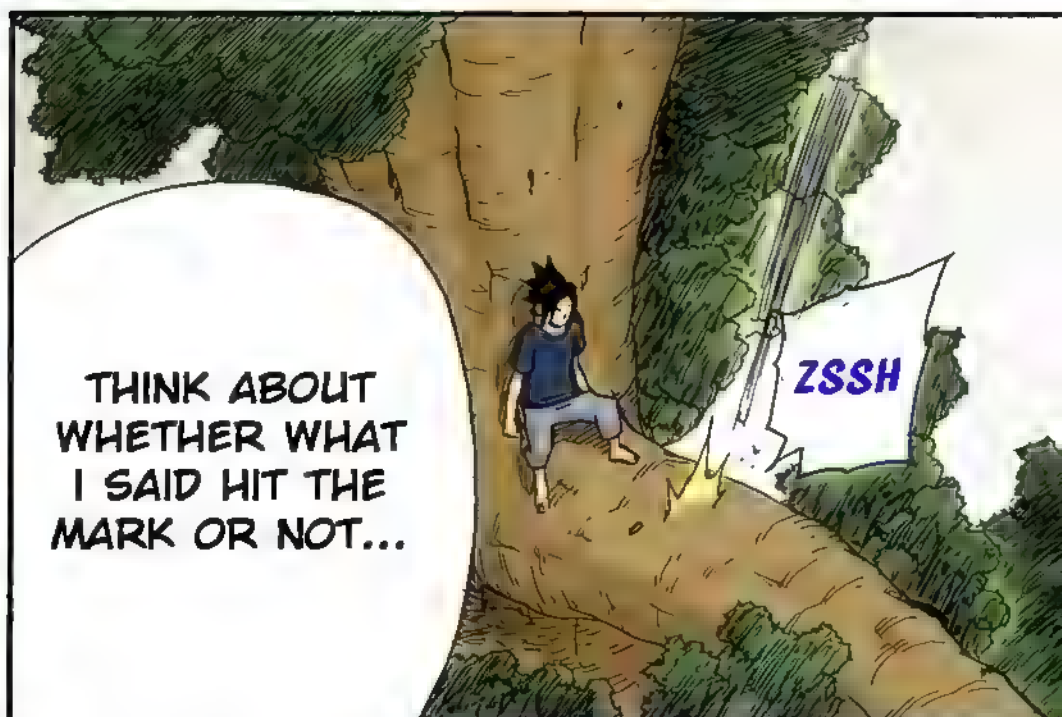
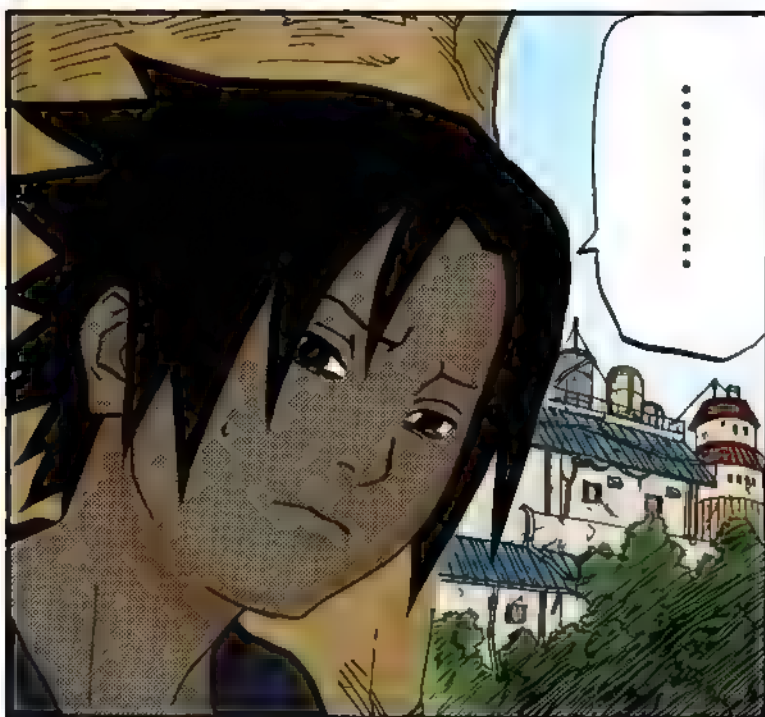
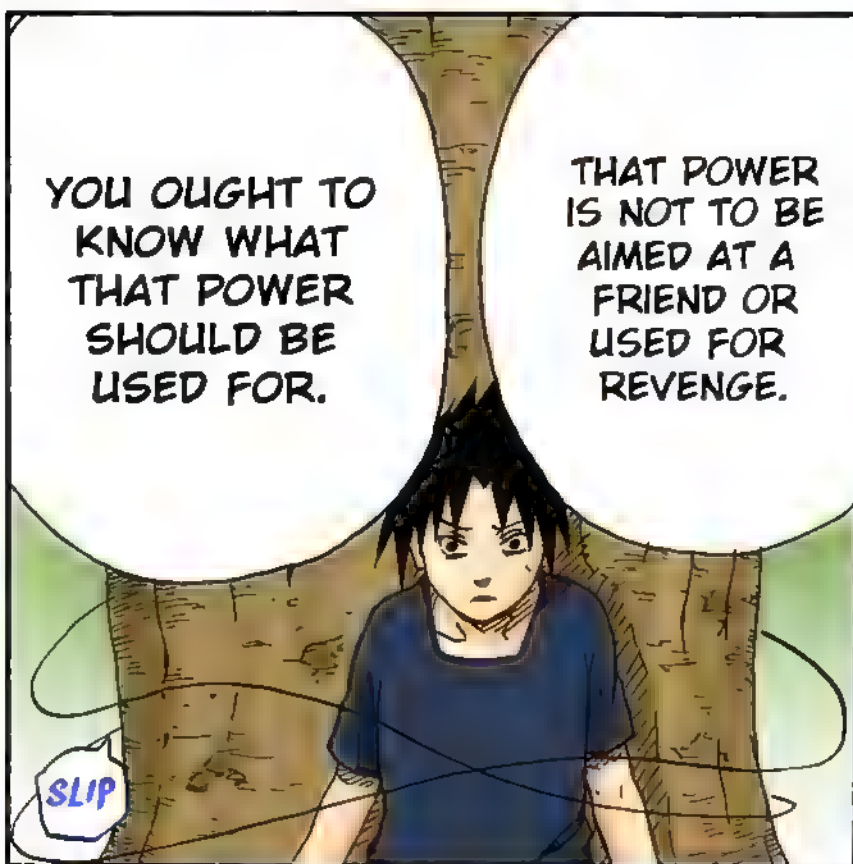


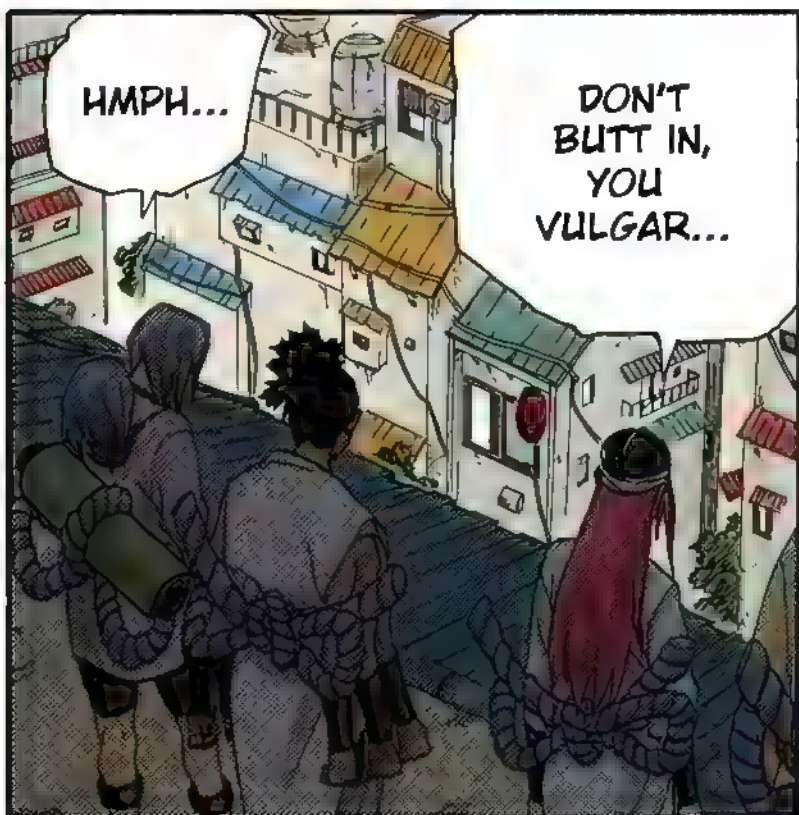
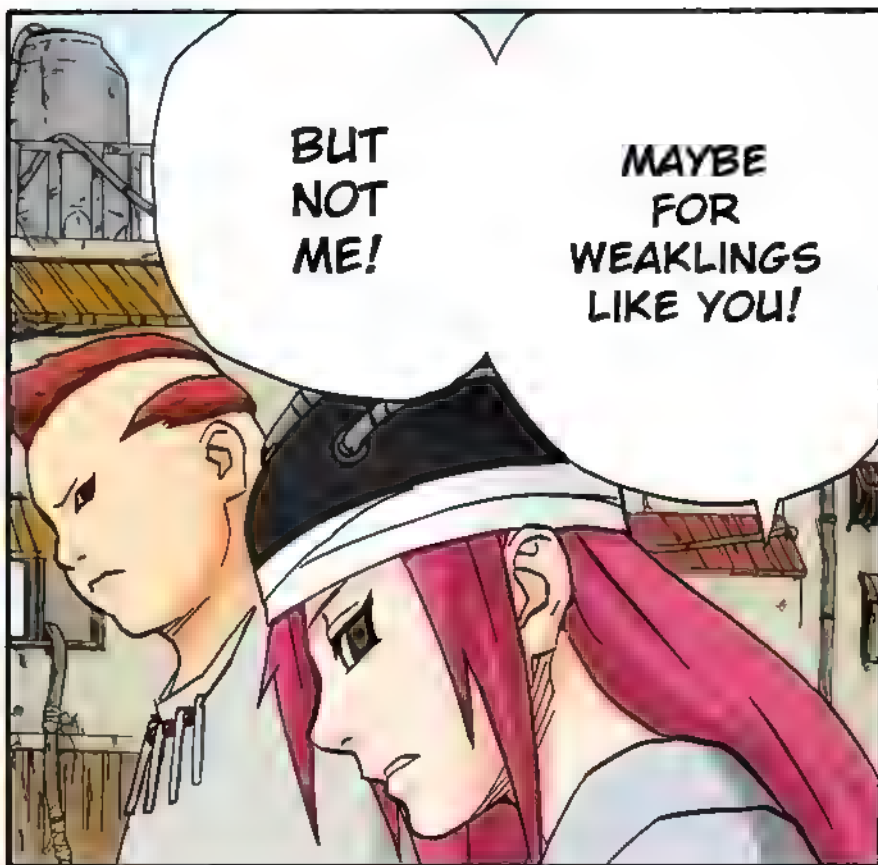
...HAVE
ALREADY
BEEN
KILLED.

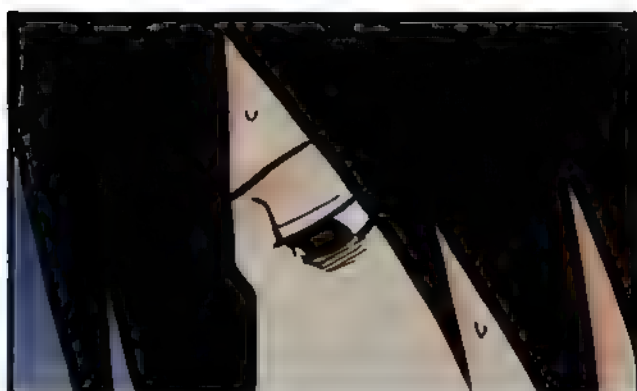
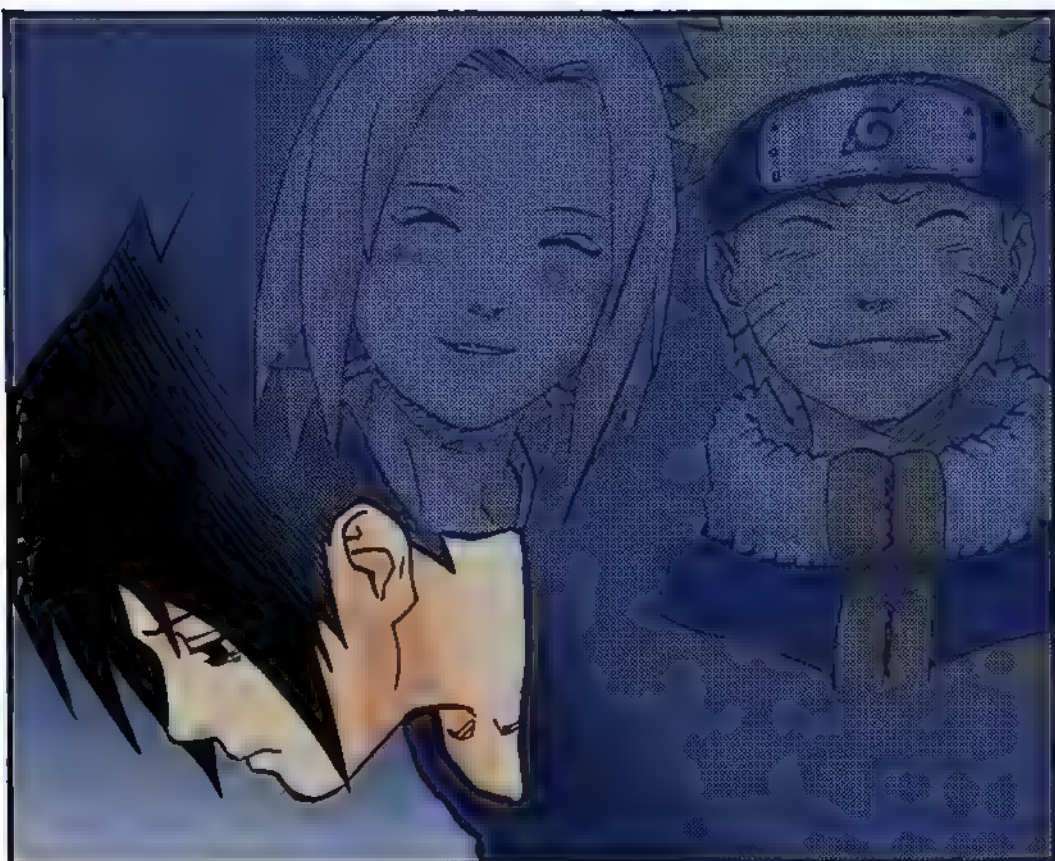
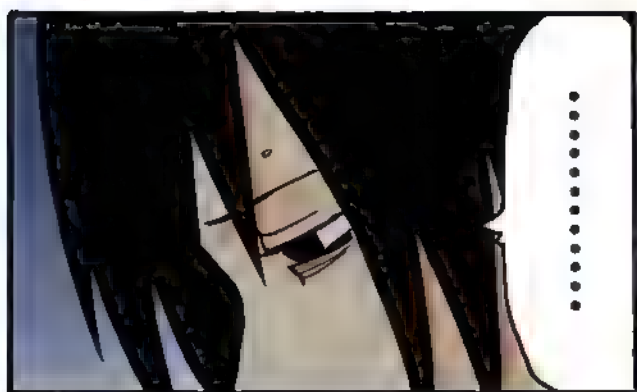
THE
ONES MOST
PRECIOUS
TO ME...

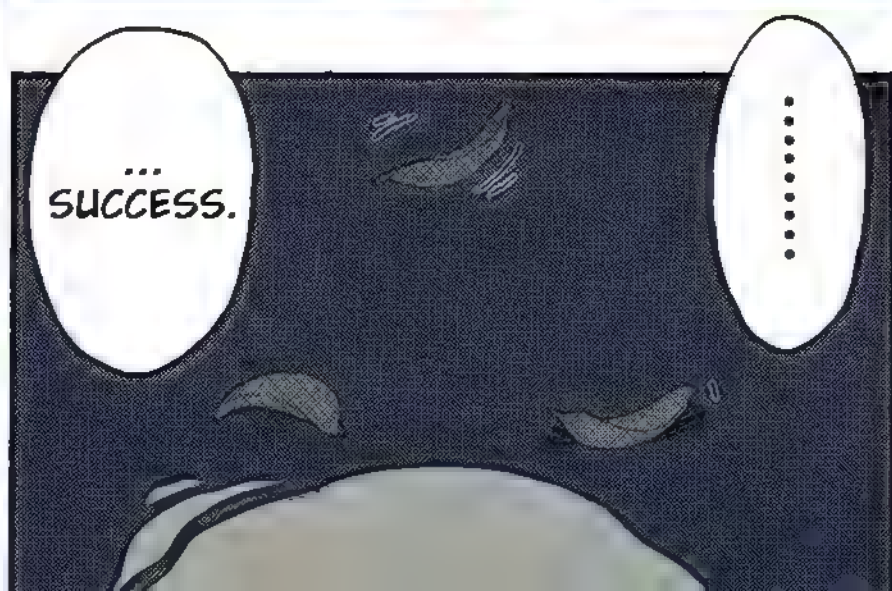
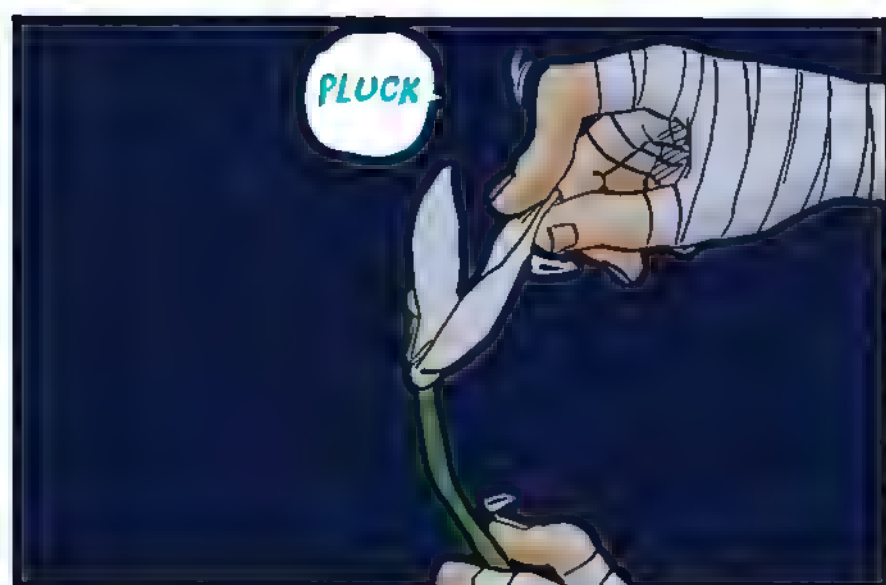
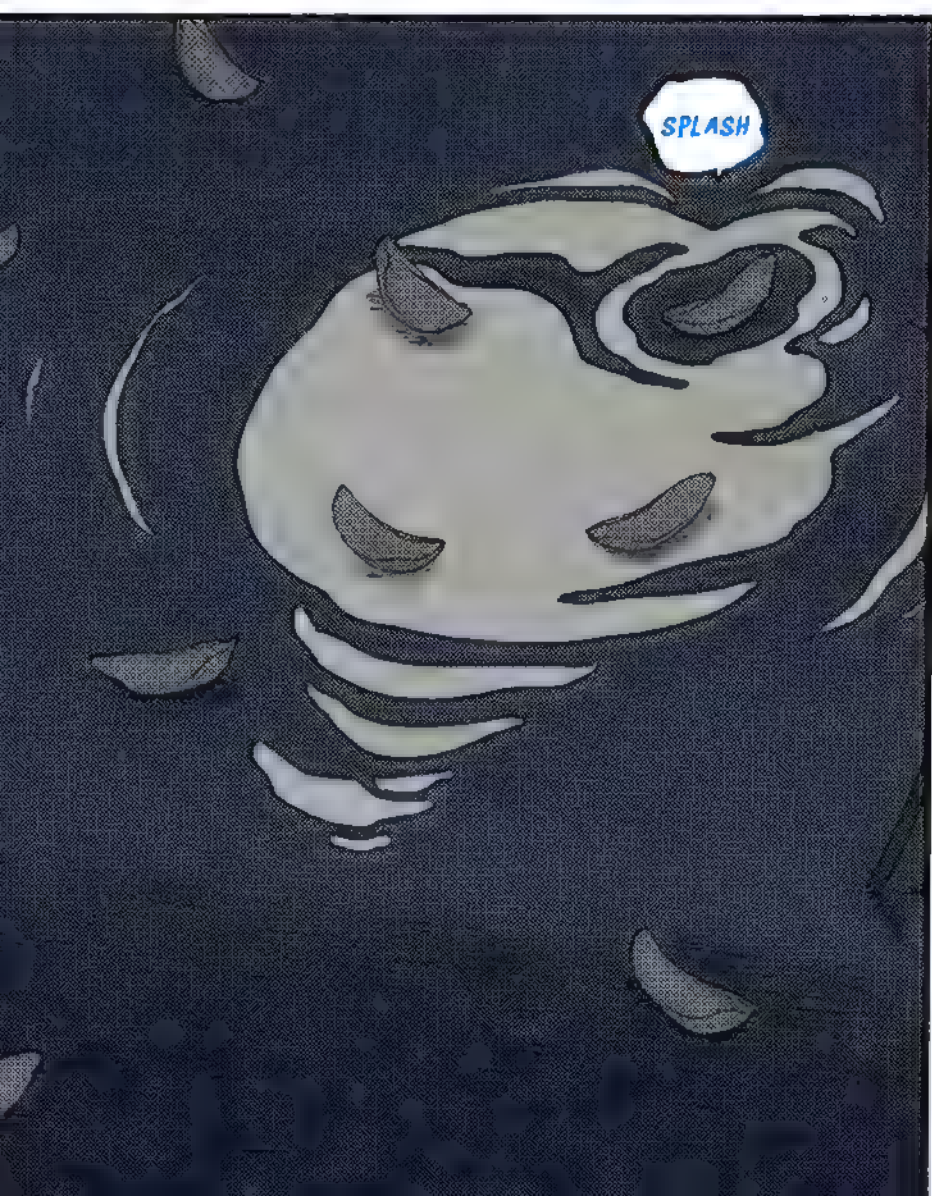
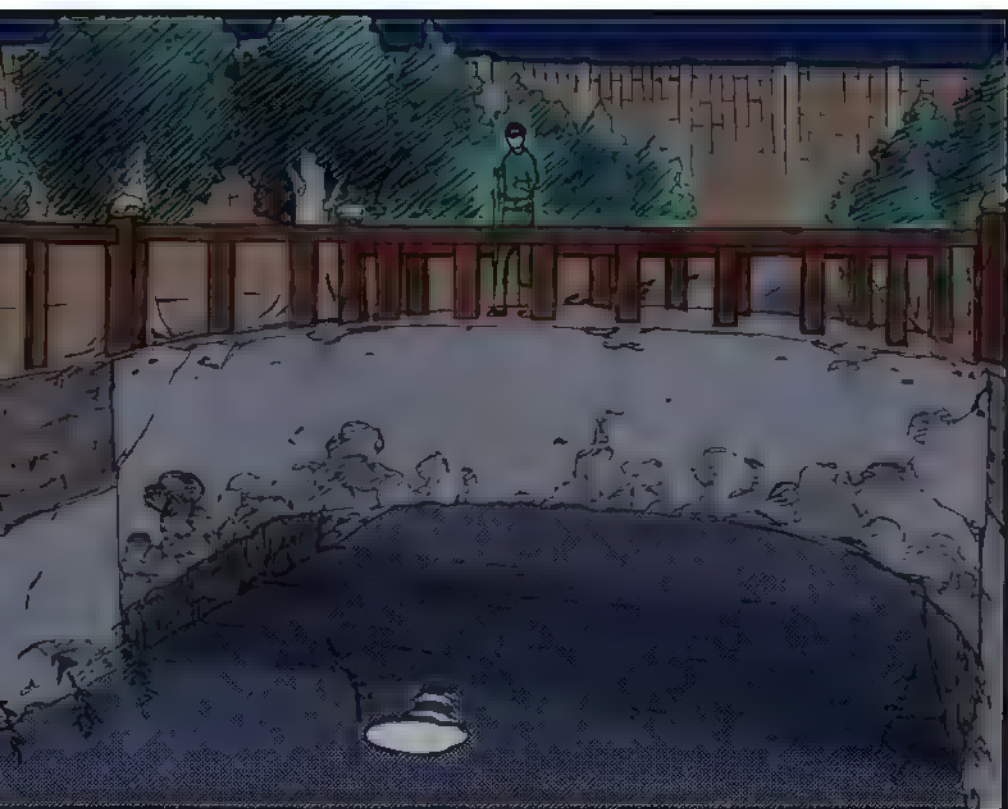


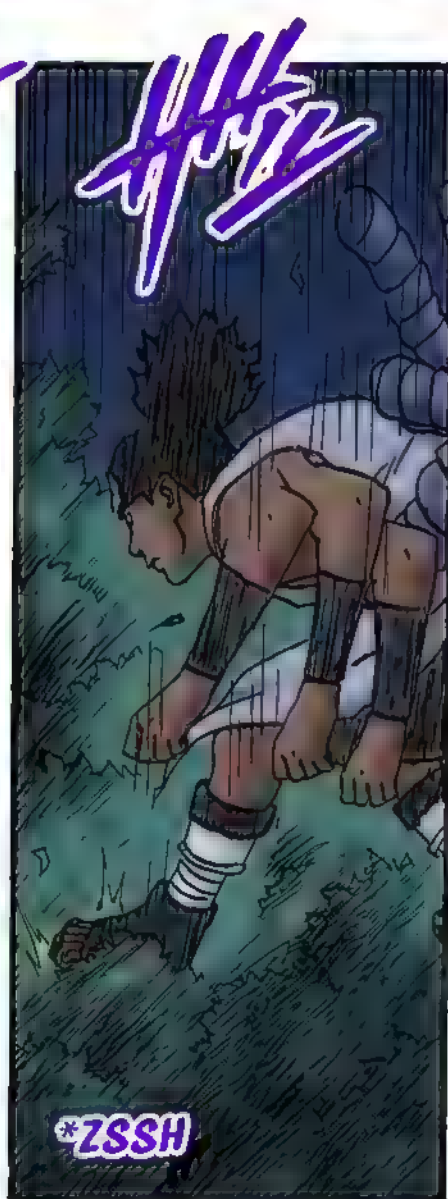
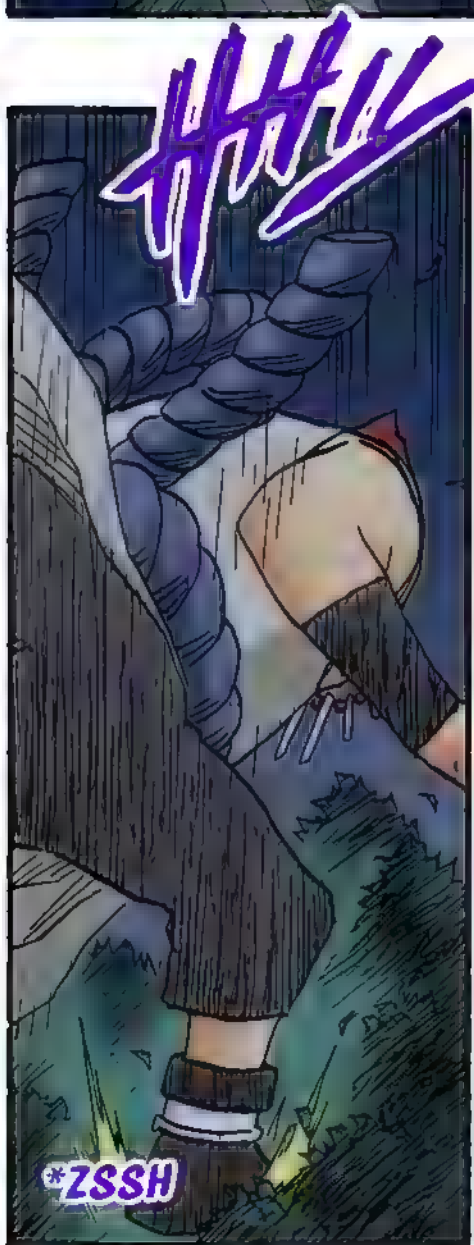
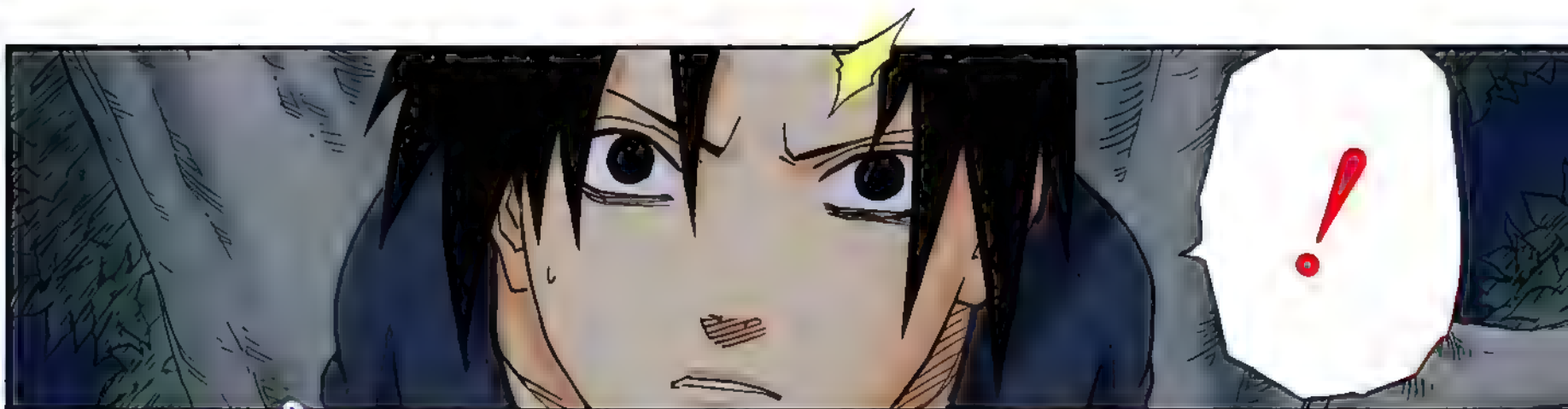


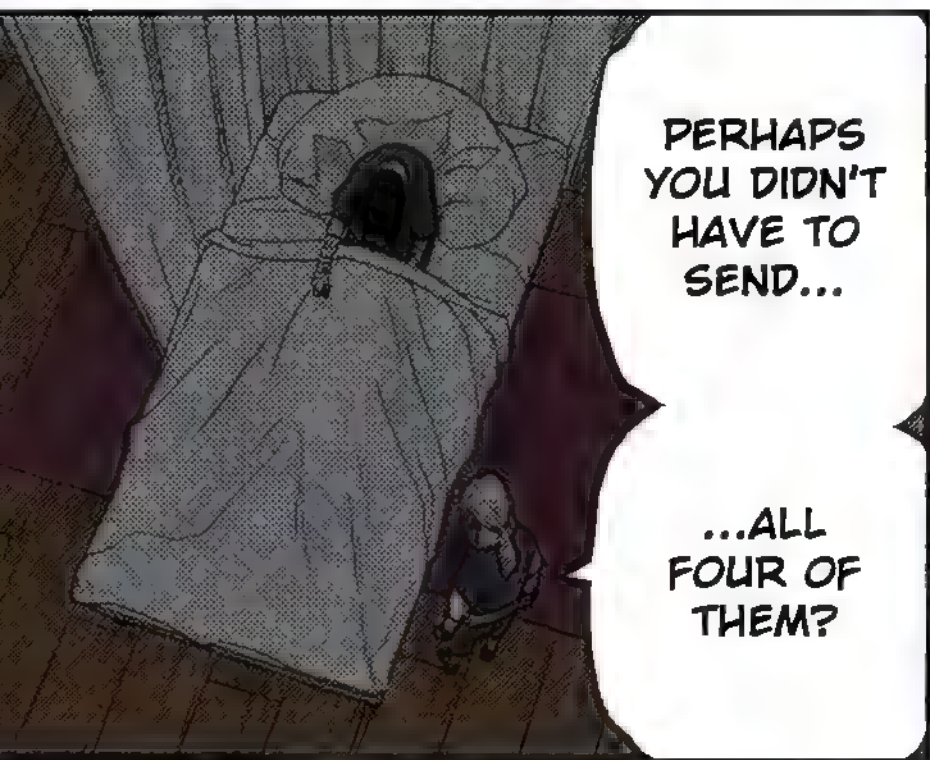






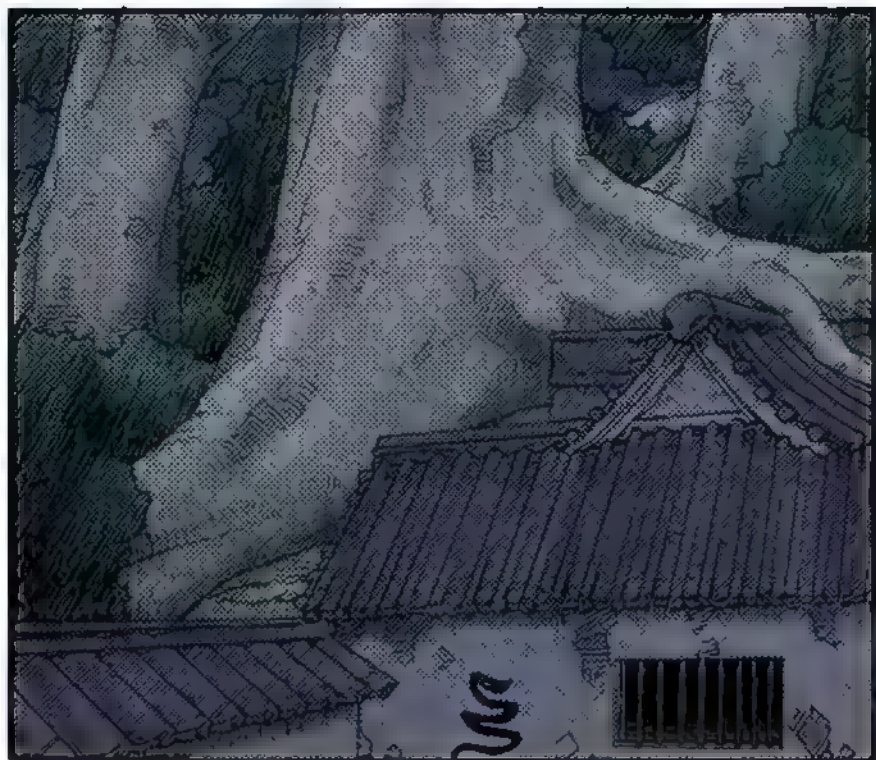






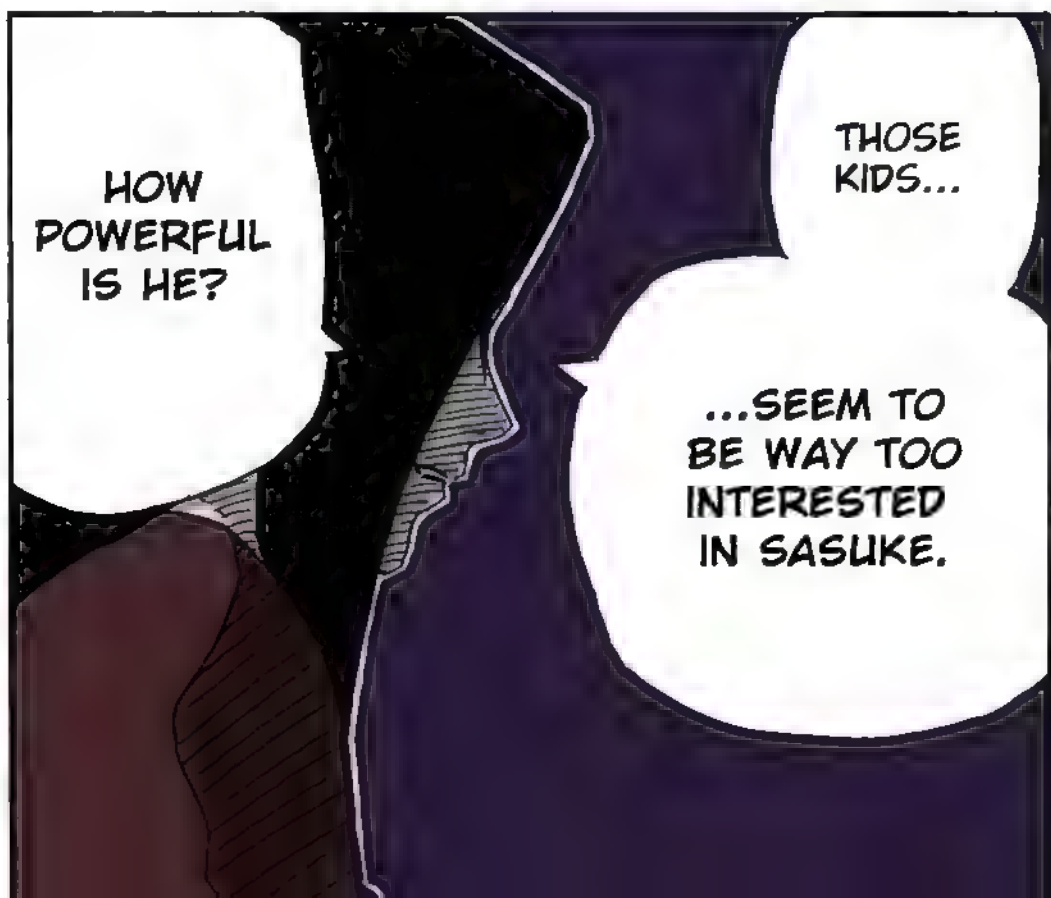
PERHAPS
YOU DIDN'T
HAVE TO
SEND...

...ALL
FOUR OF
THEM?



IT'LL
HARDLY
BE A
CHALLENGE...

THE WAY
SASUKE
IS NOW,
HE WON'T
STAND A
CHANCE.



HOW
POWERFUL
IS HE?

THOSE
KIDS...

...SEEM TO
BE WAY TOO
INTERESTED
IN SASUKE.

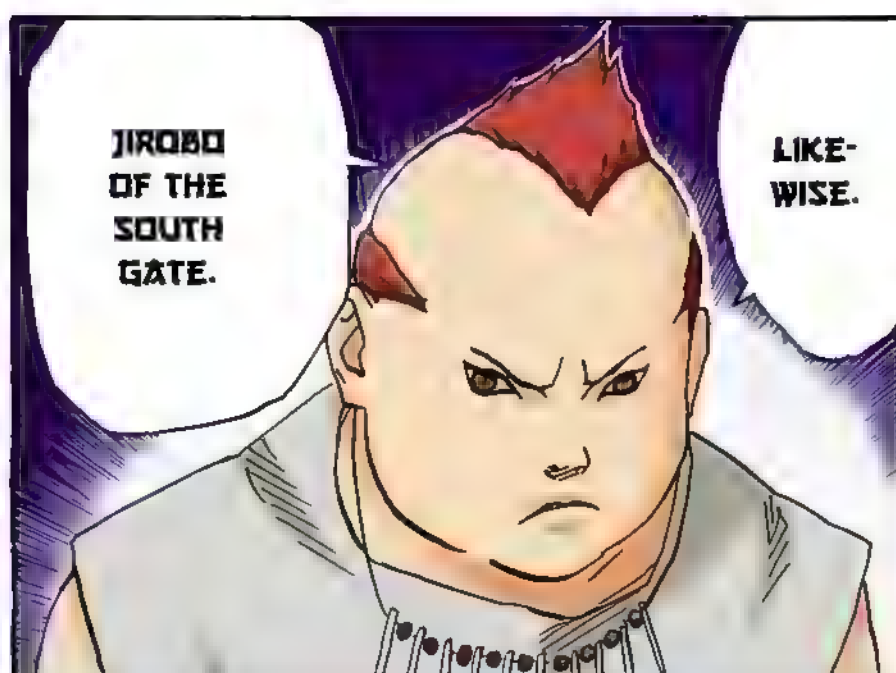


HE'LL
COME TO ME
EVENTUALLY...

HEH
HEH...
HE NEEDS
GUIDANCE...

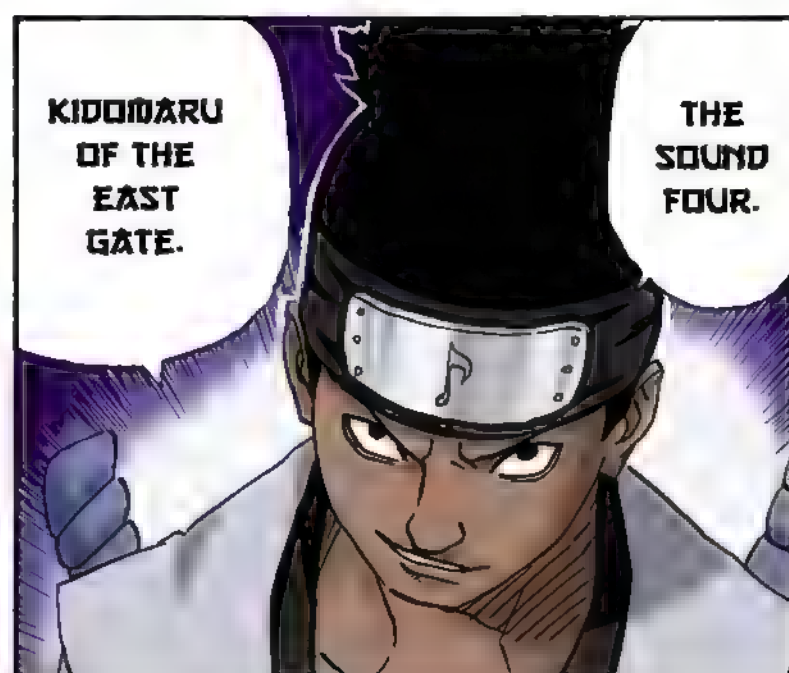


WHO
ARE
YOU...?



JIROBO
OF THE
SOUTH
GATE.

LIKE-
WISE.



KIDOMARU
OF THE
EAST
GATE.

THE
SOUND
FOUR.



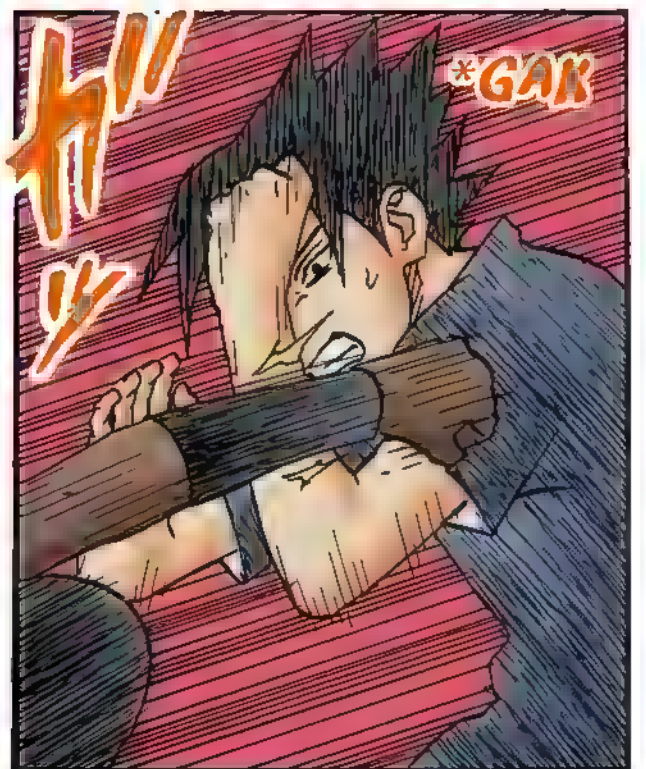
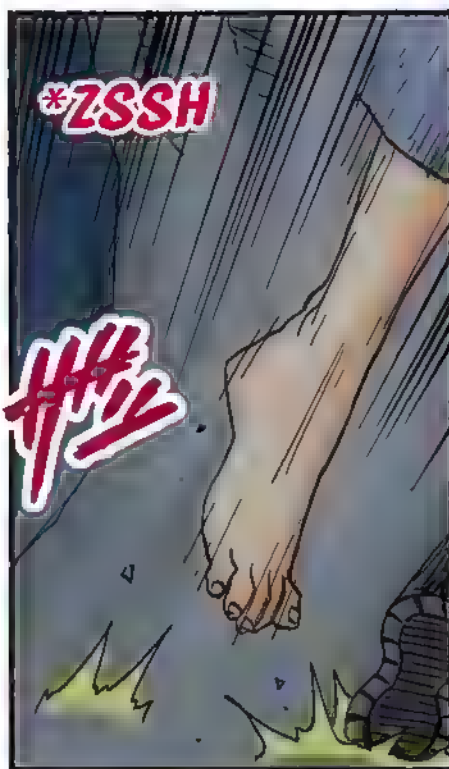
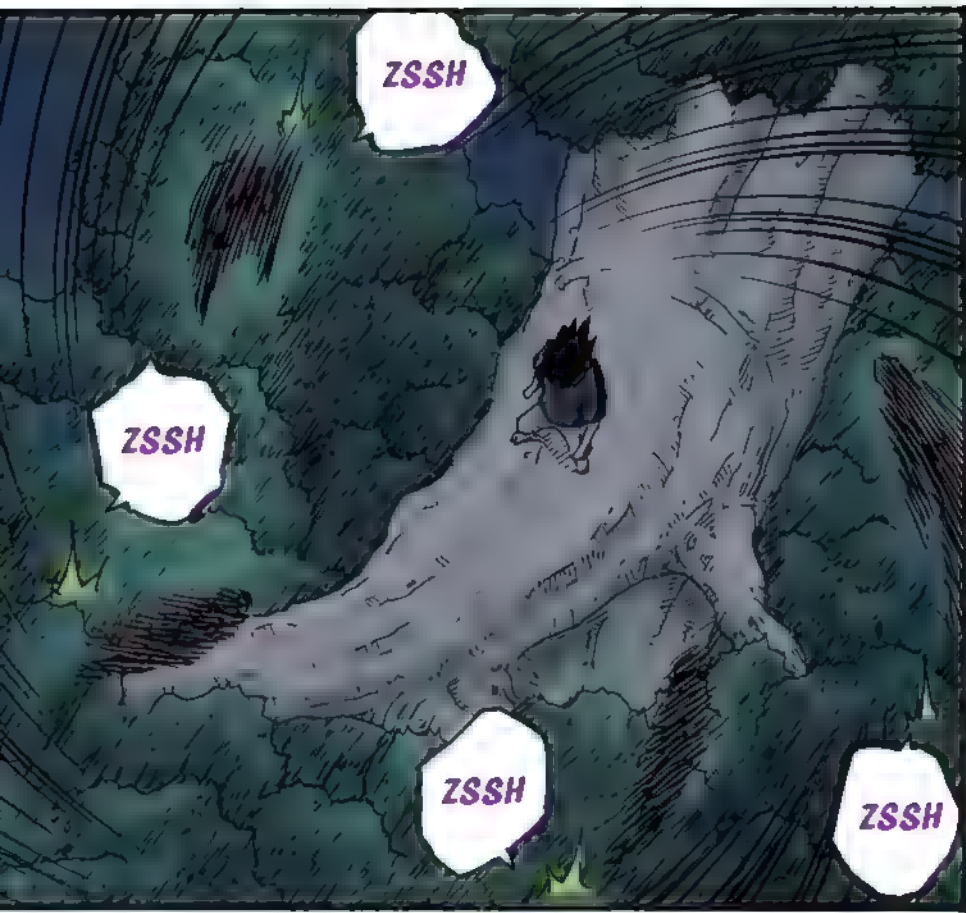
TAYUYA
OF THE
NORTH
GATE.

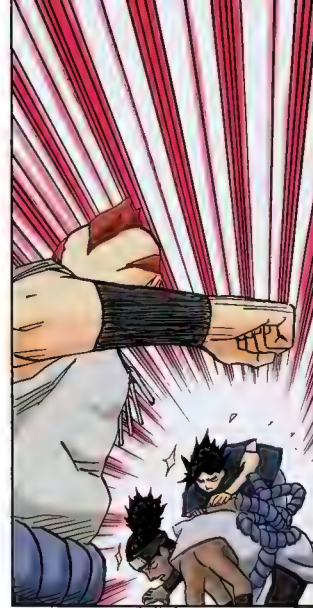
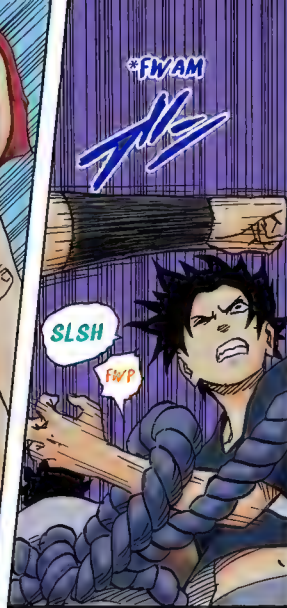
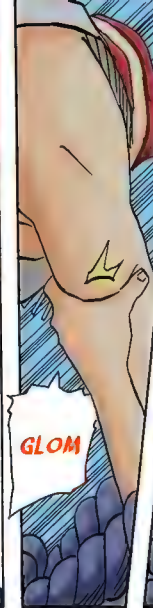
LIKE-
WISE.

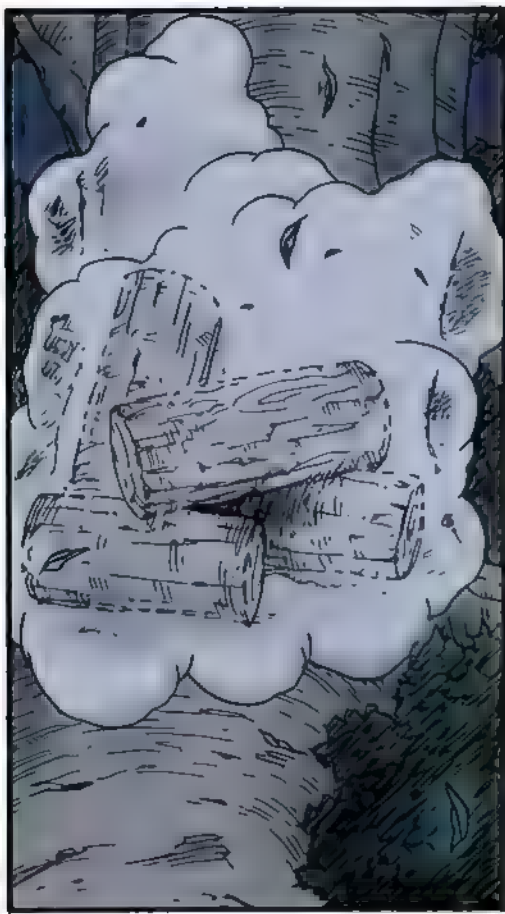
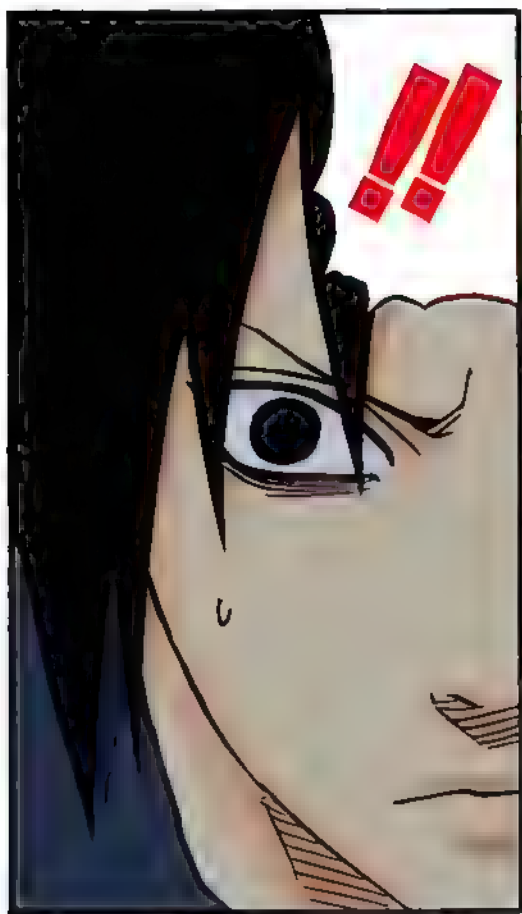
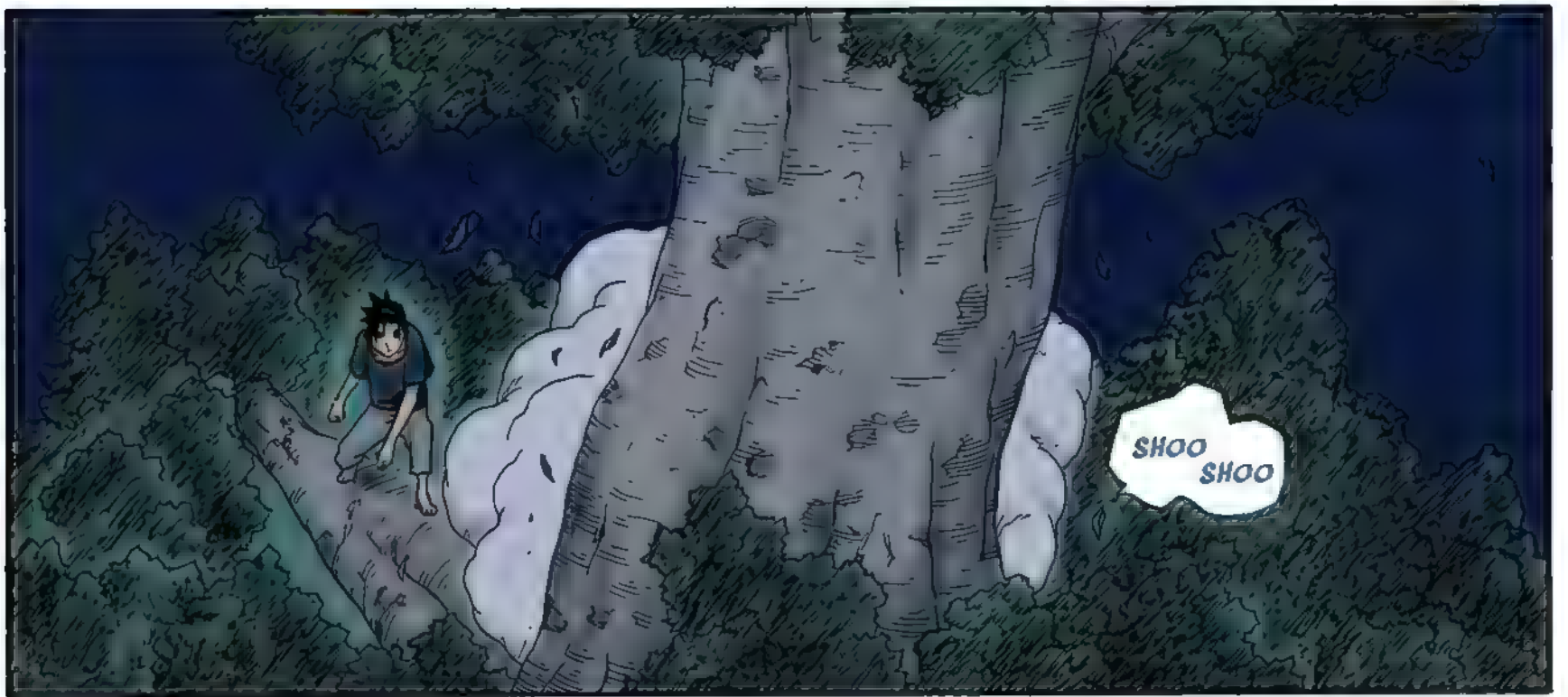
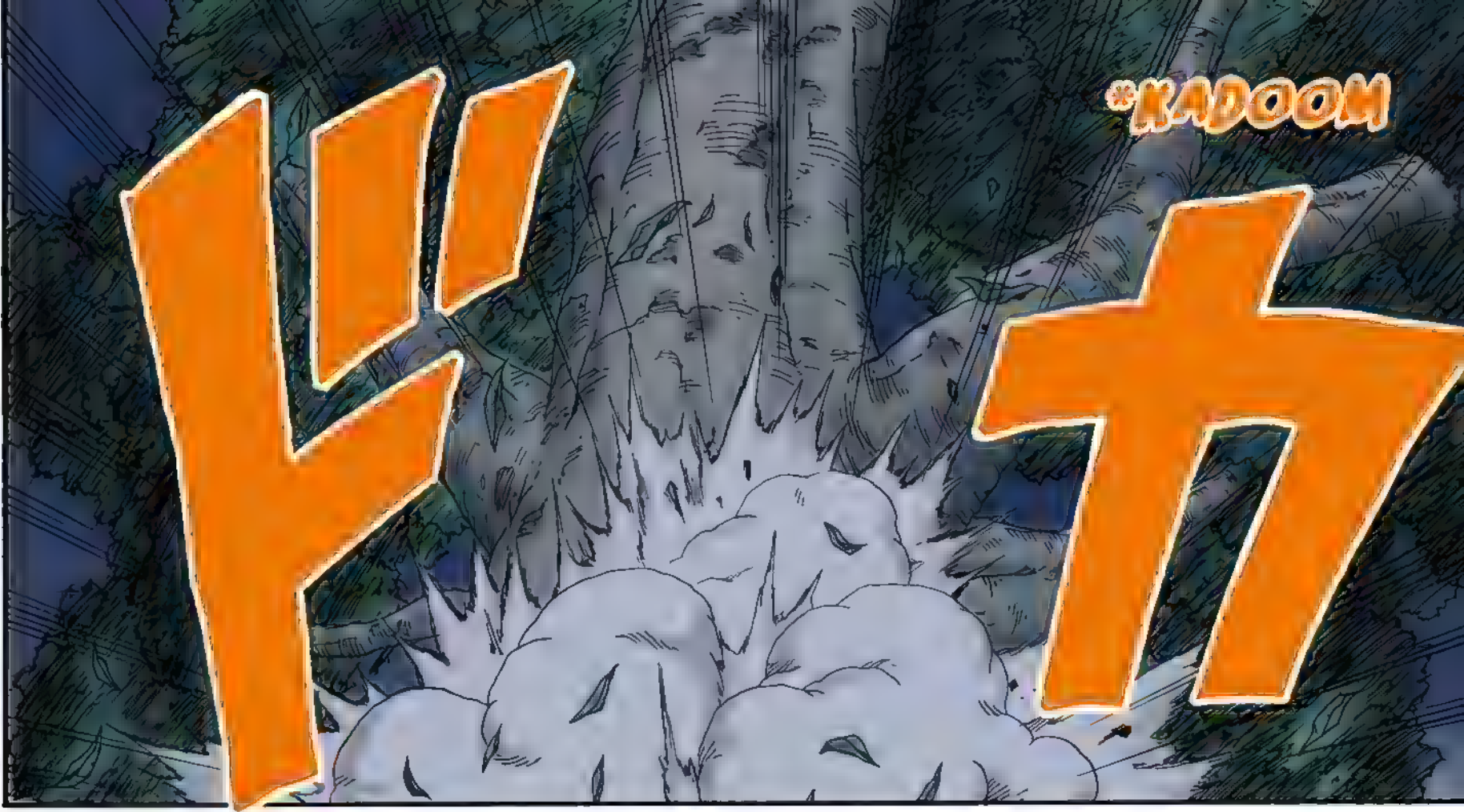


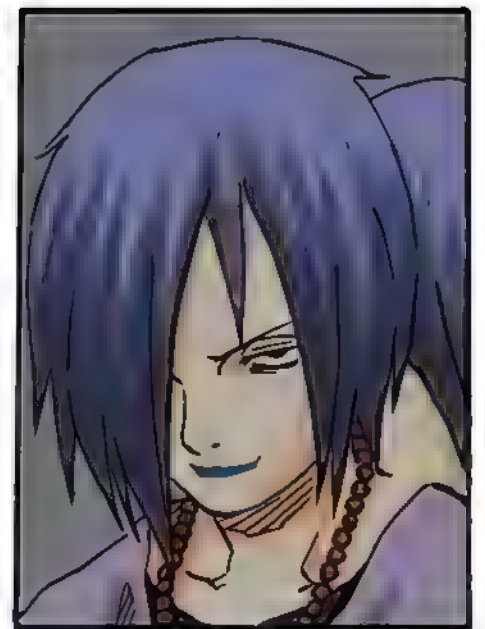
SAKON
OF THE
WEST
GATE.

LIKE-
WISE.









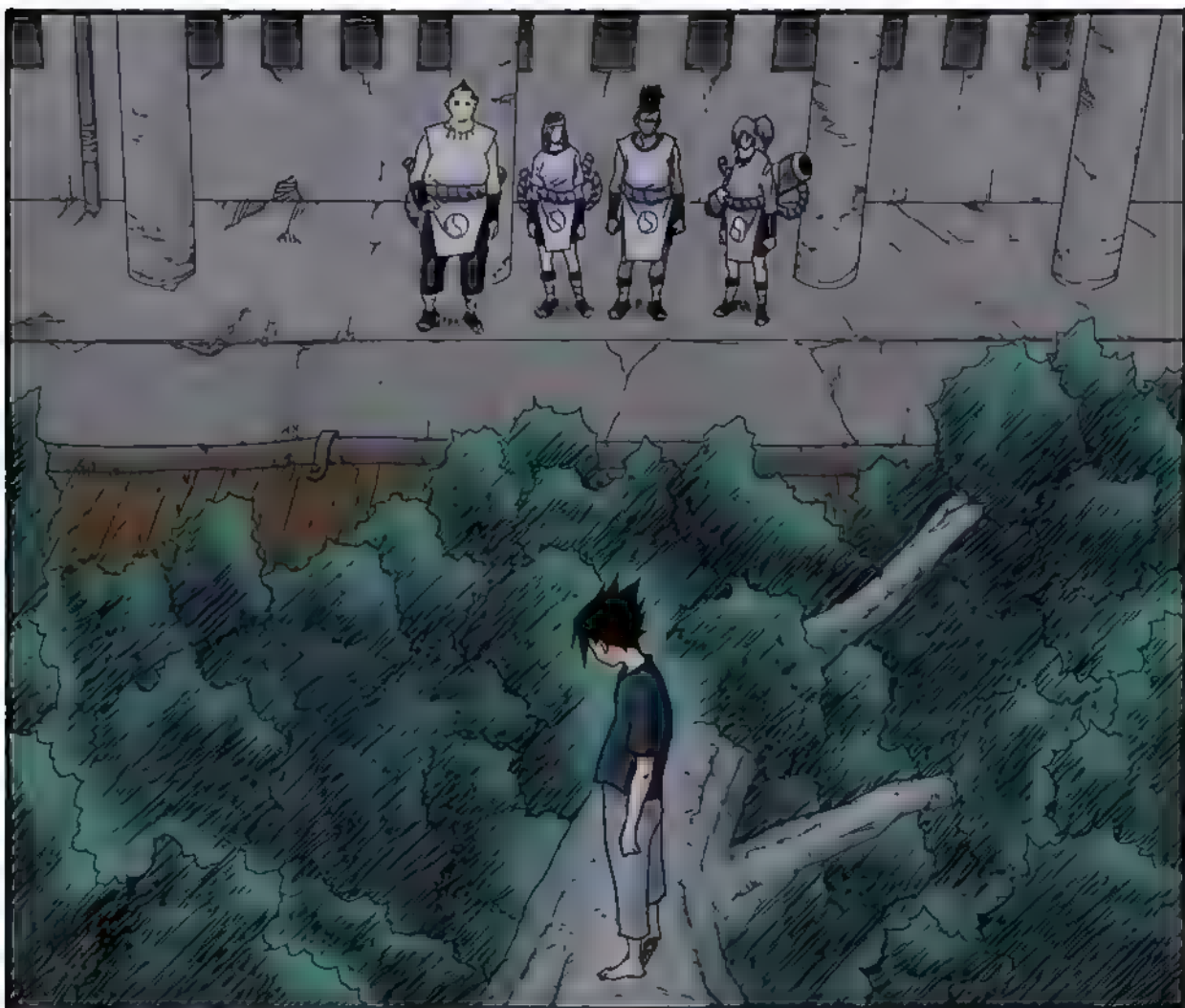
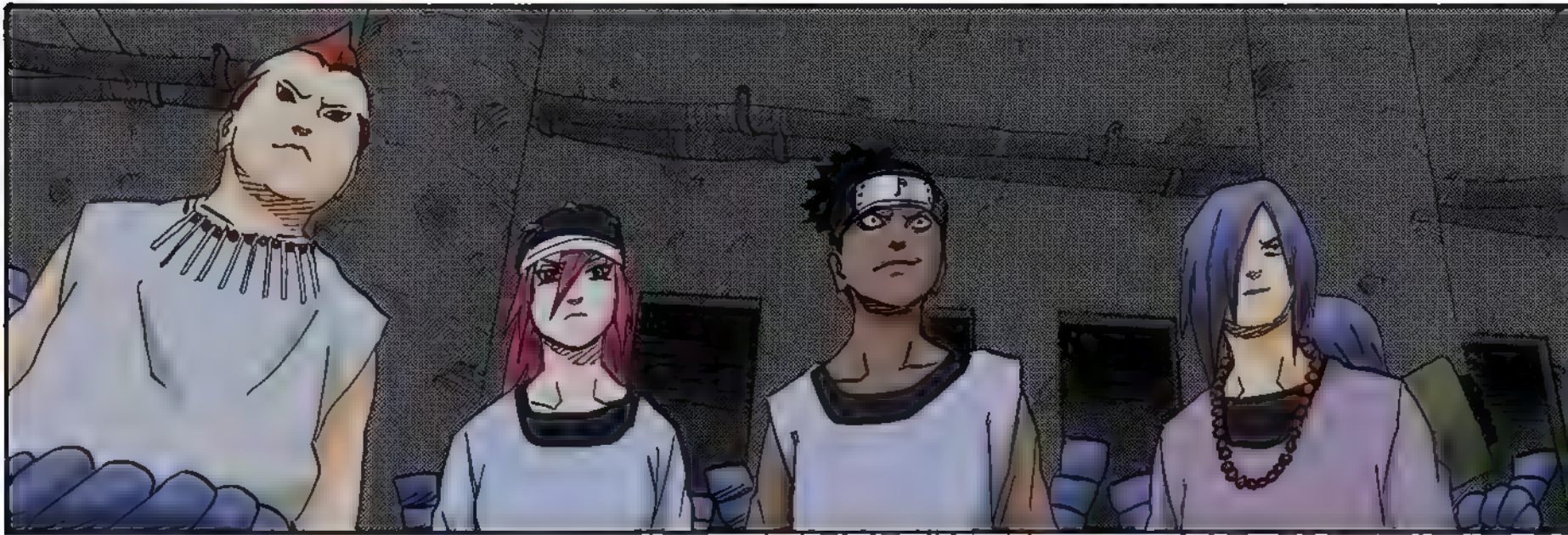


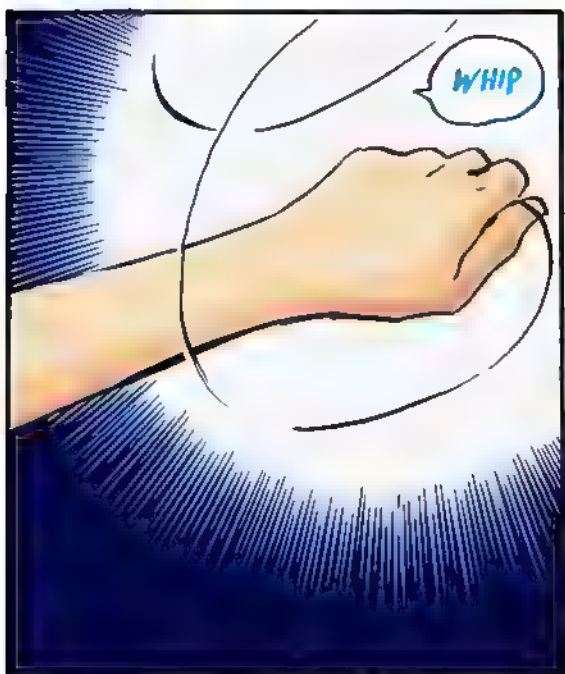
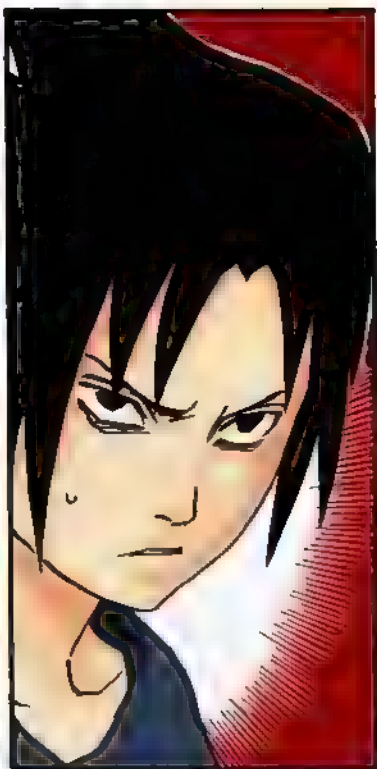
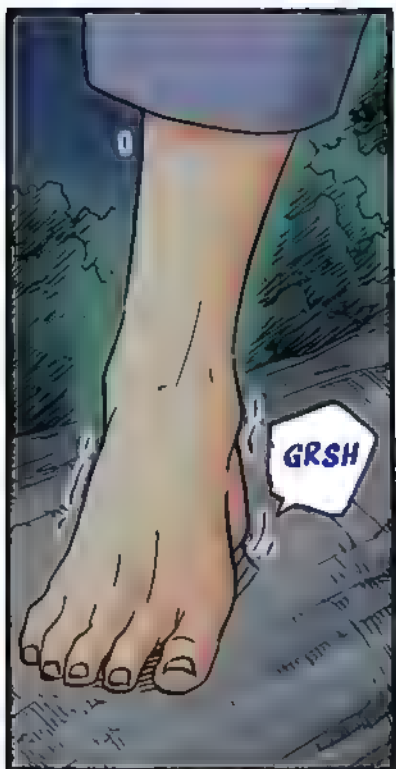
ナンバー

178 :

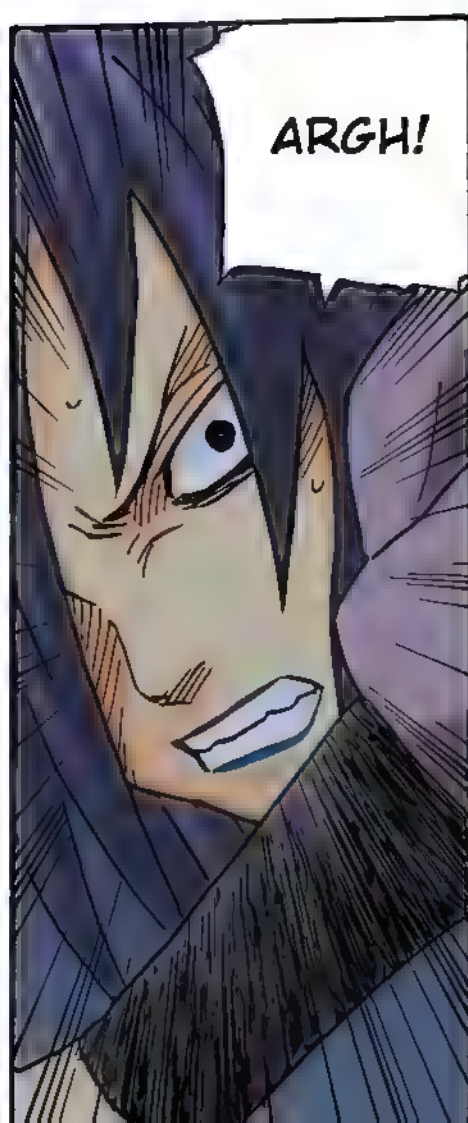
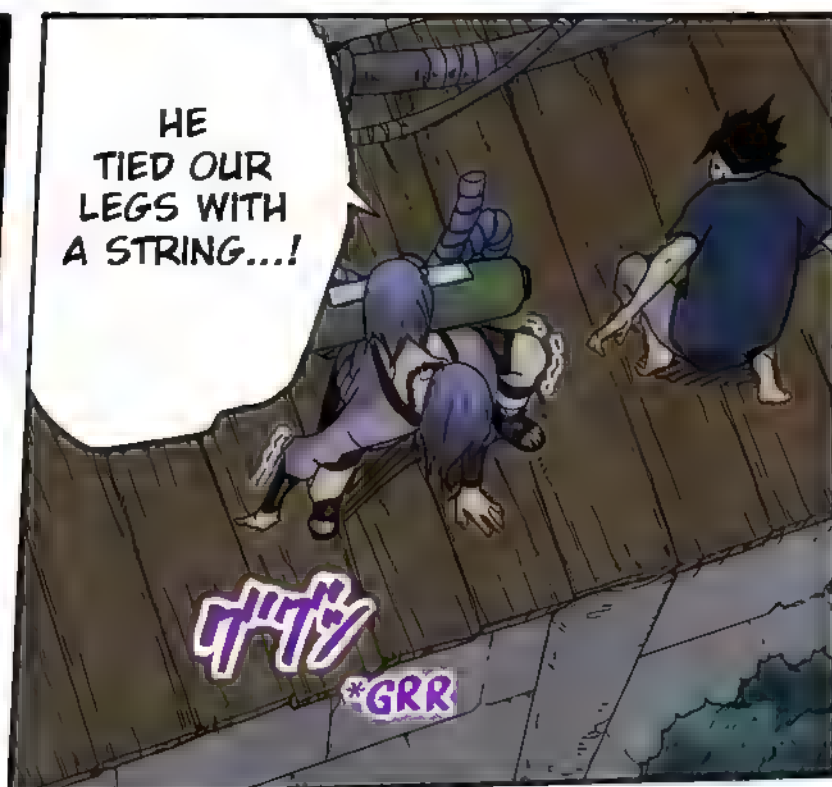


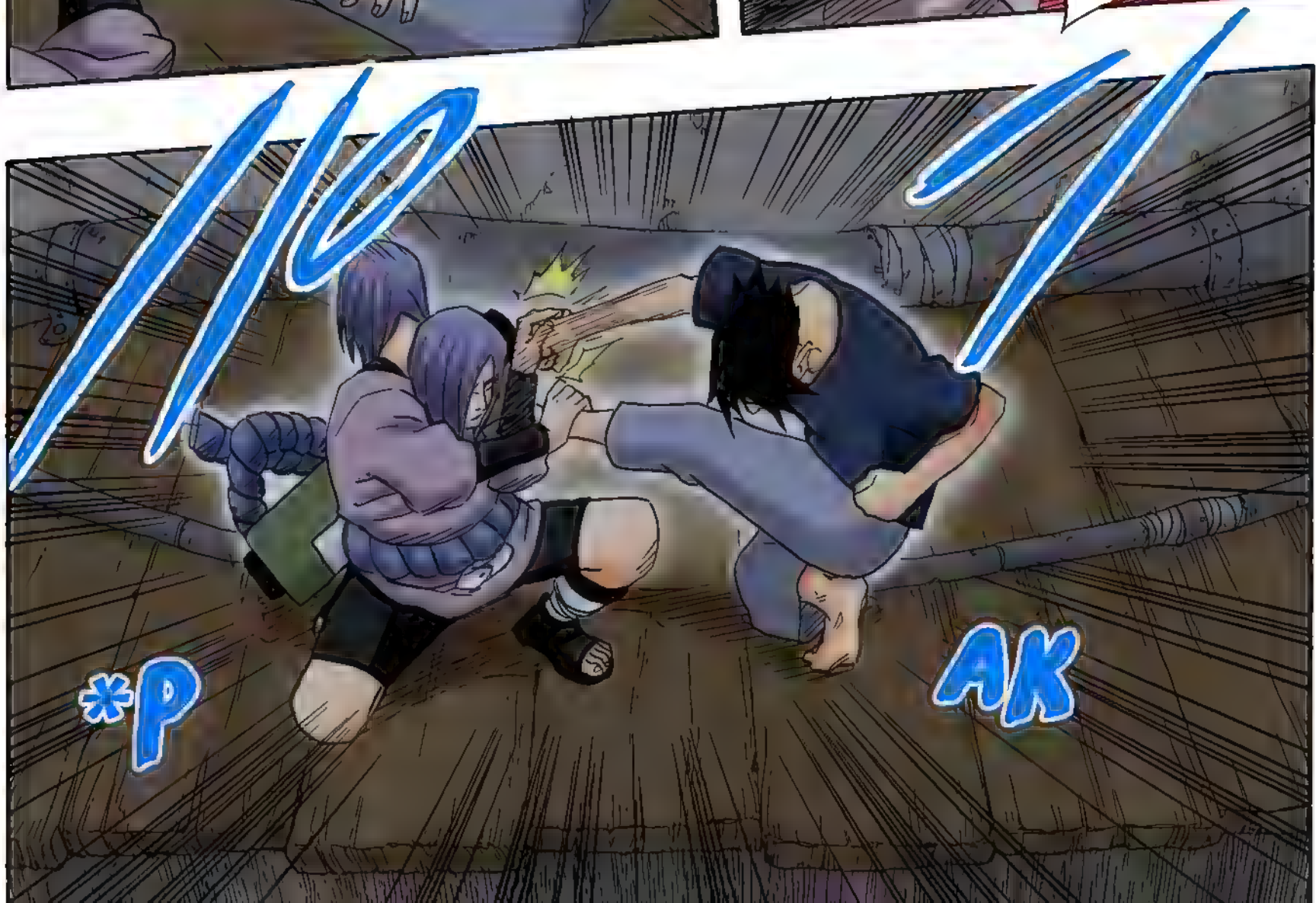
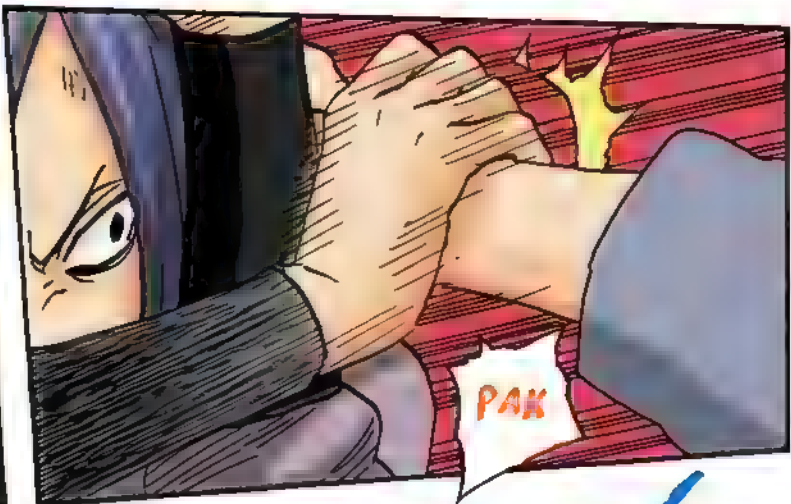
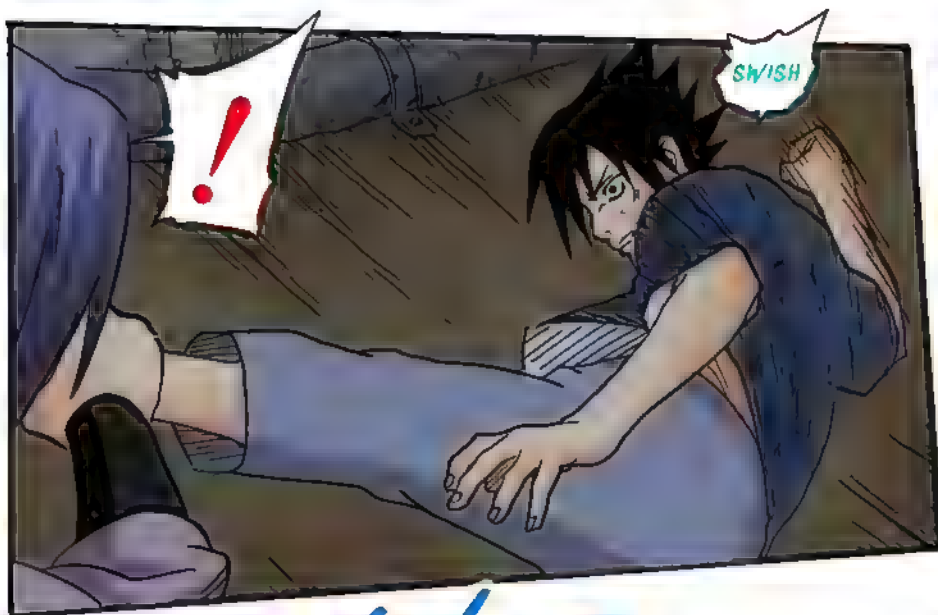
INVITATION...!!

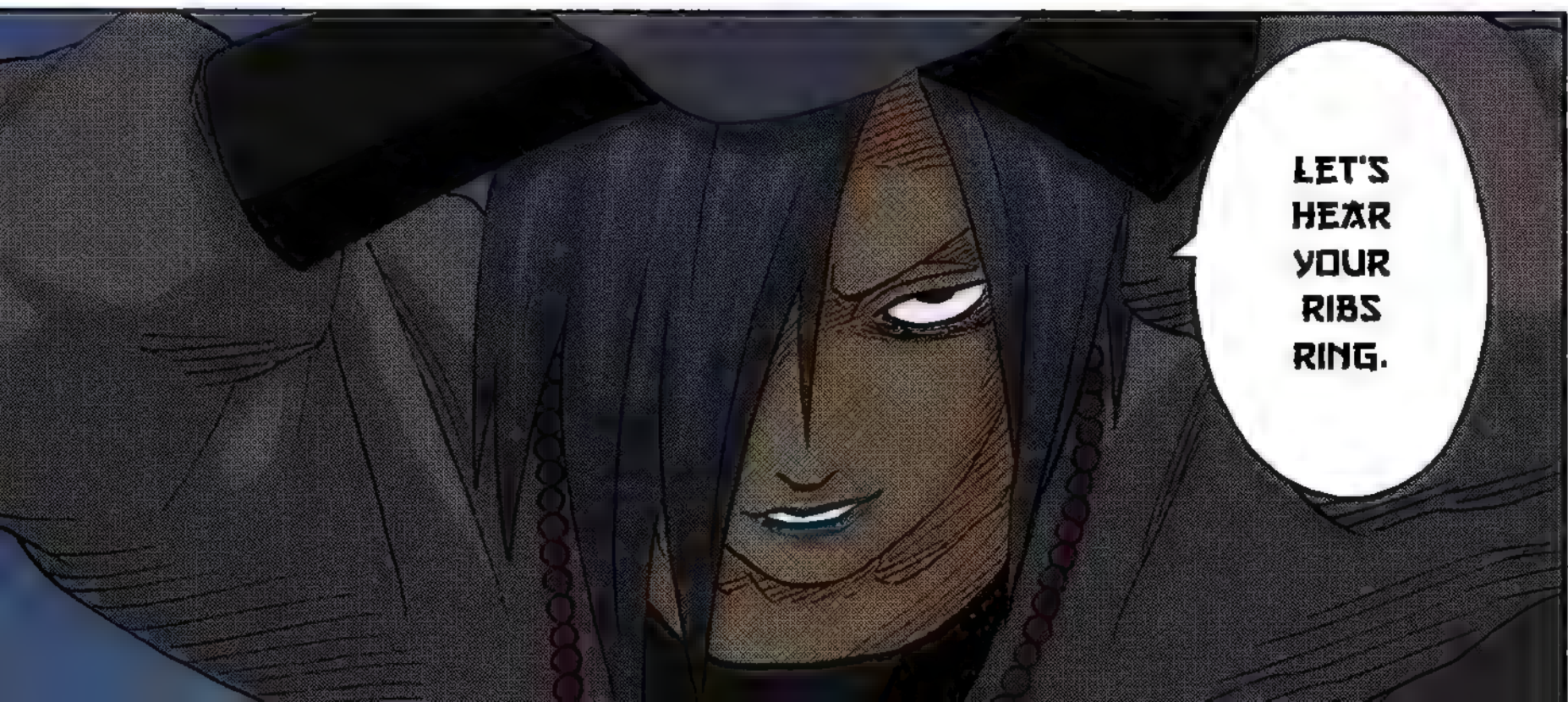
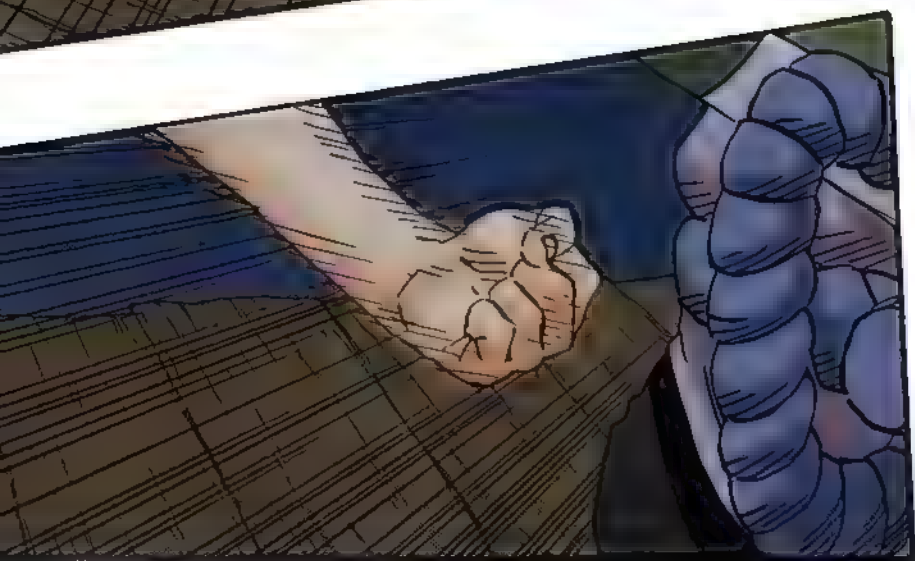
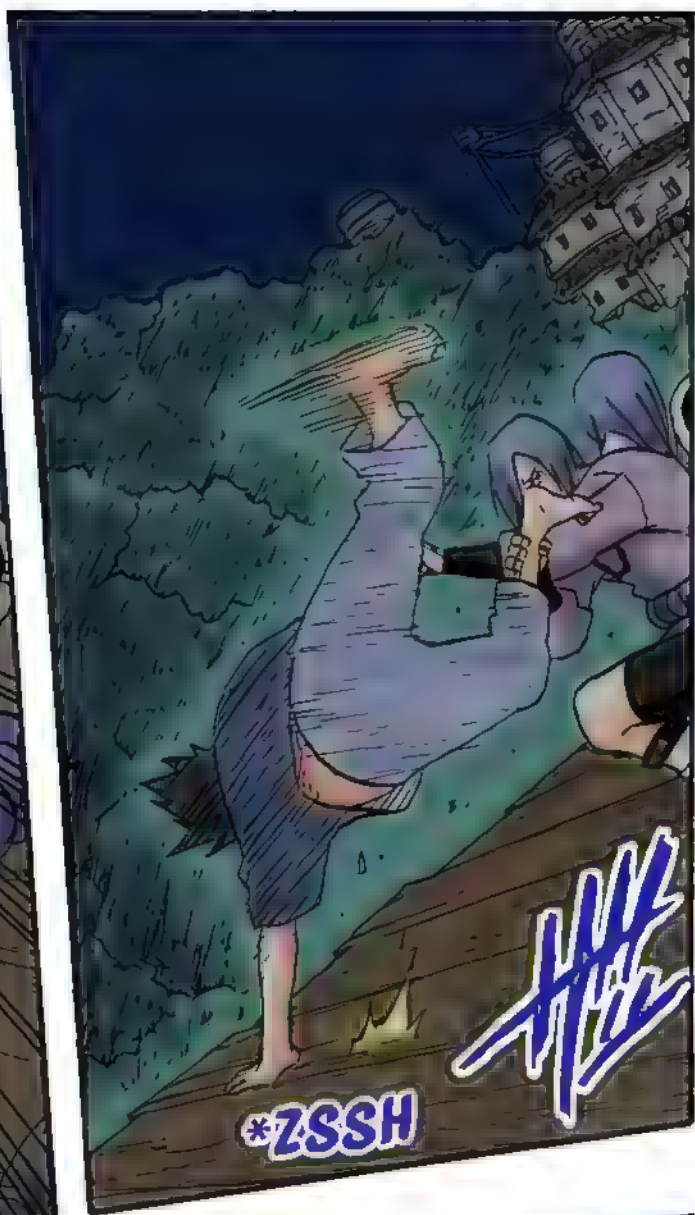


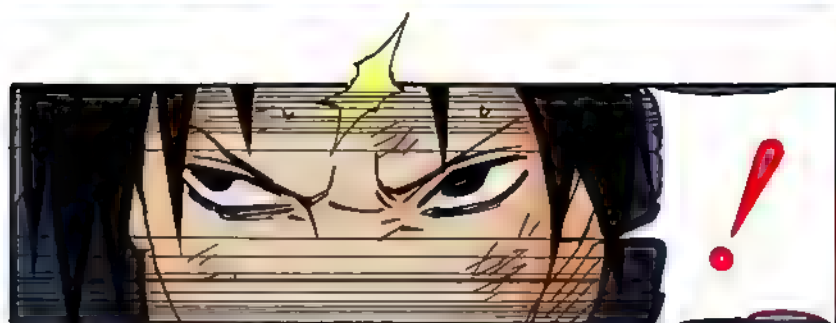
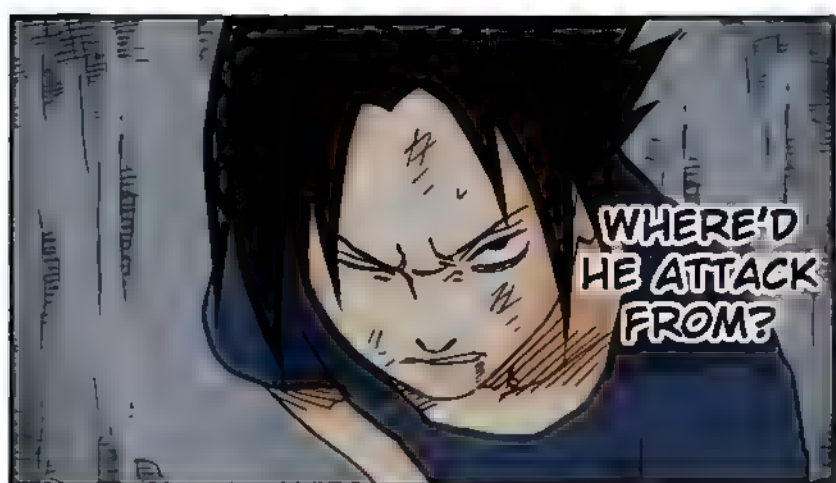
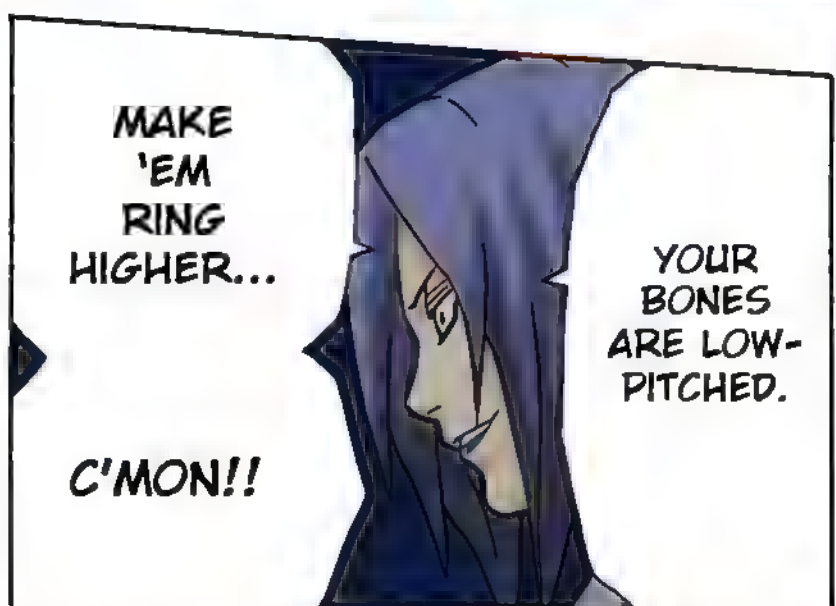


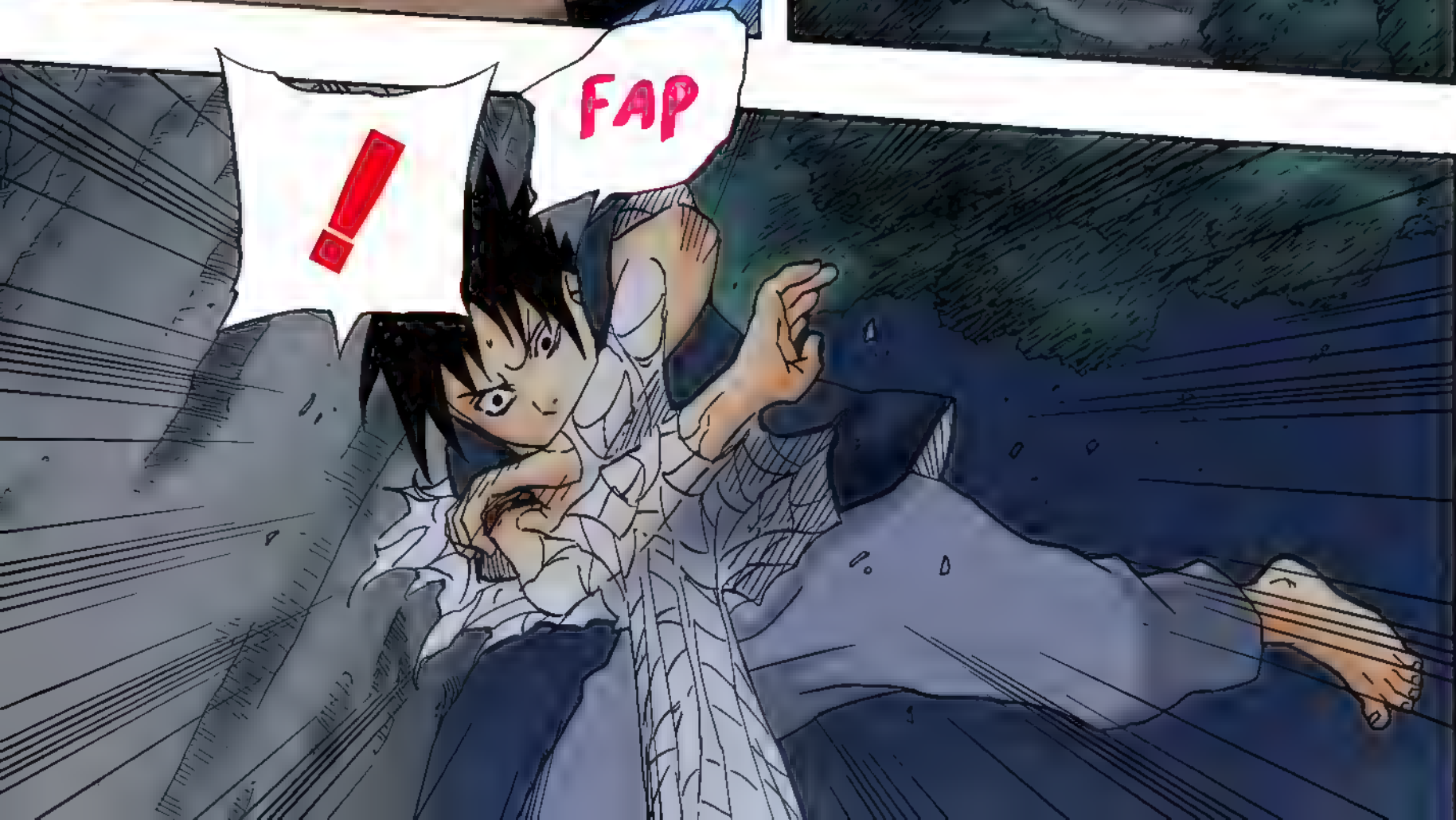














VWWSH



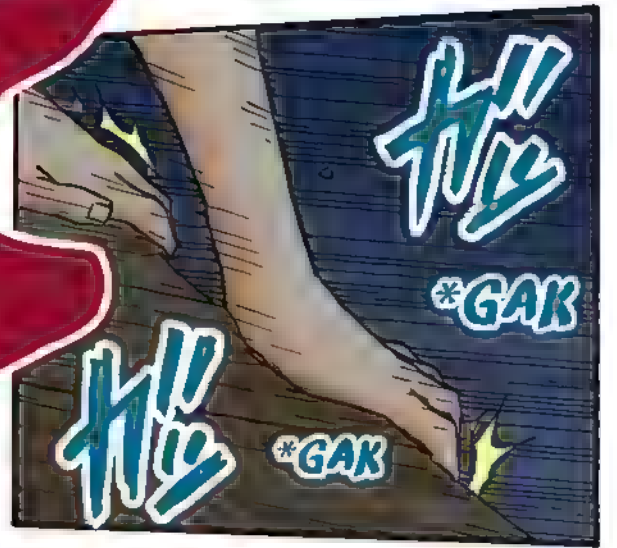
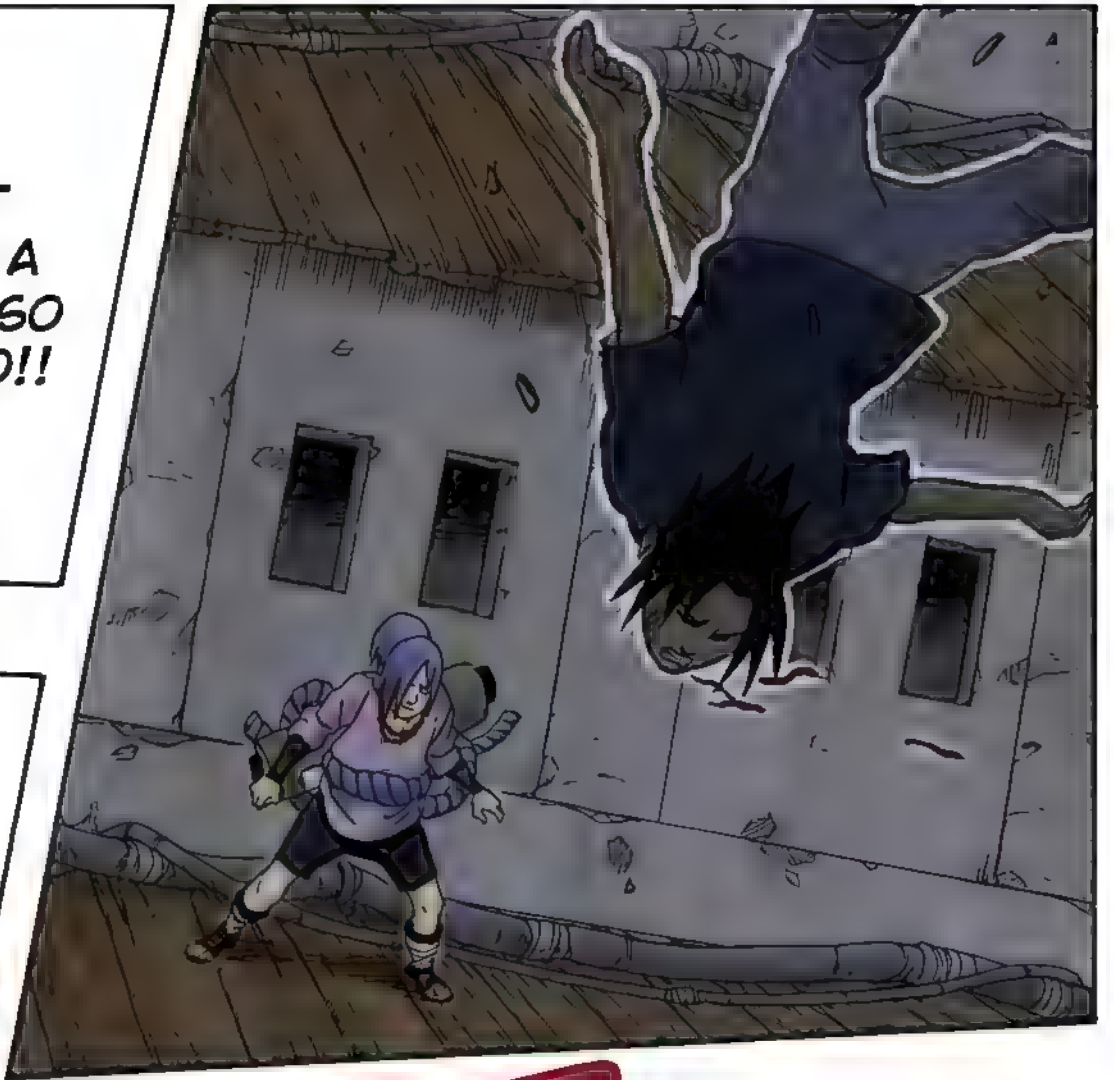
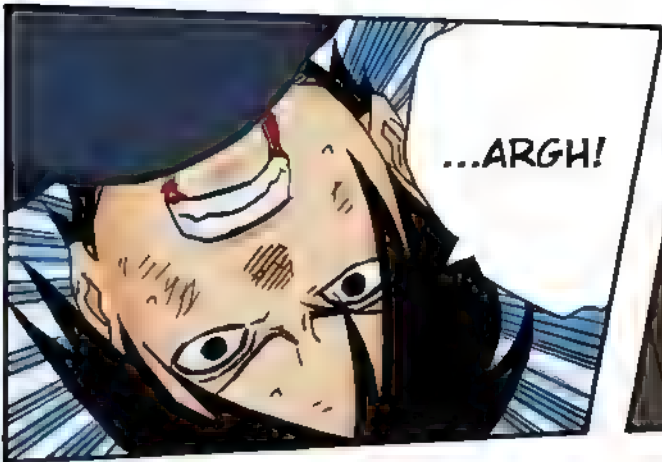
ARGH!

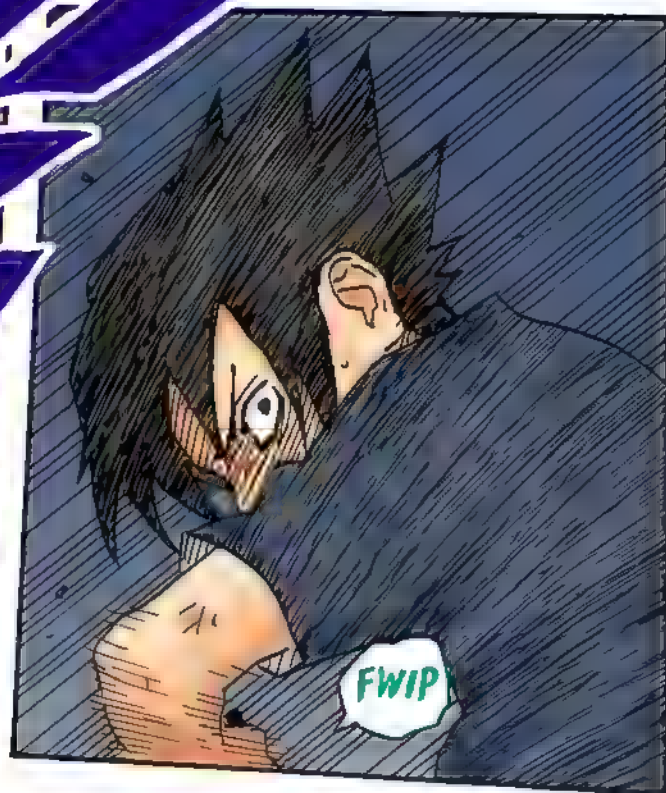
*BOOM

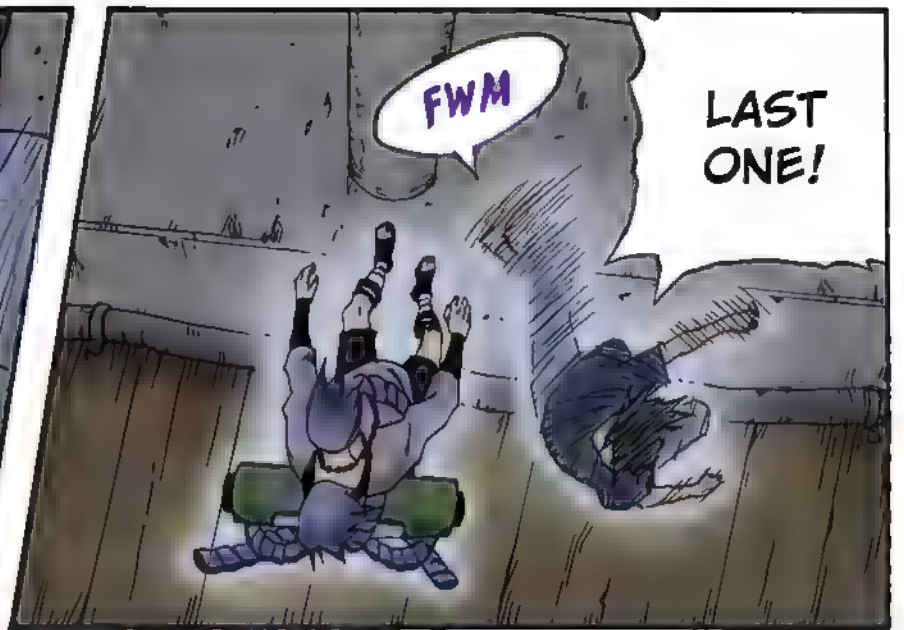


!!

*SNAP







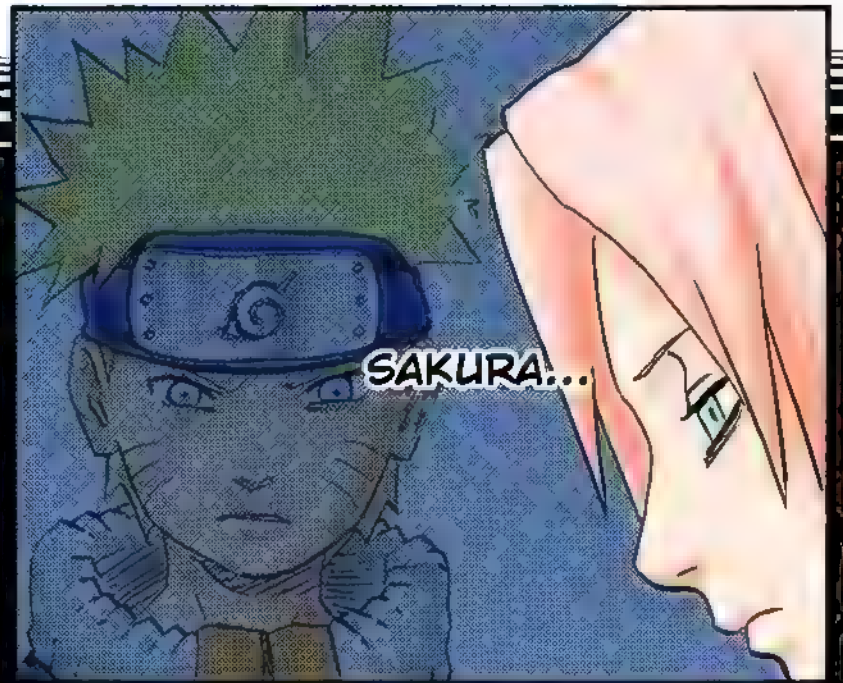
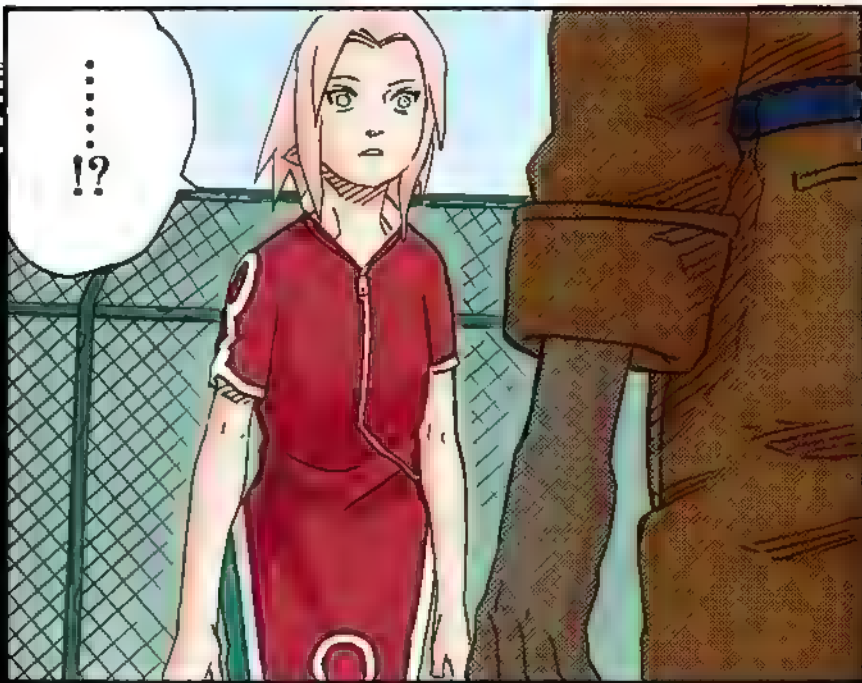
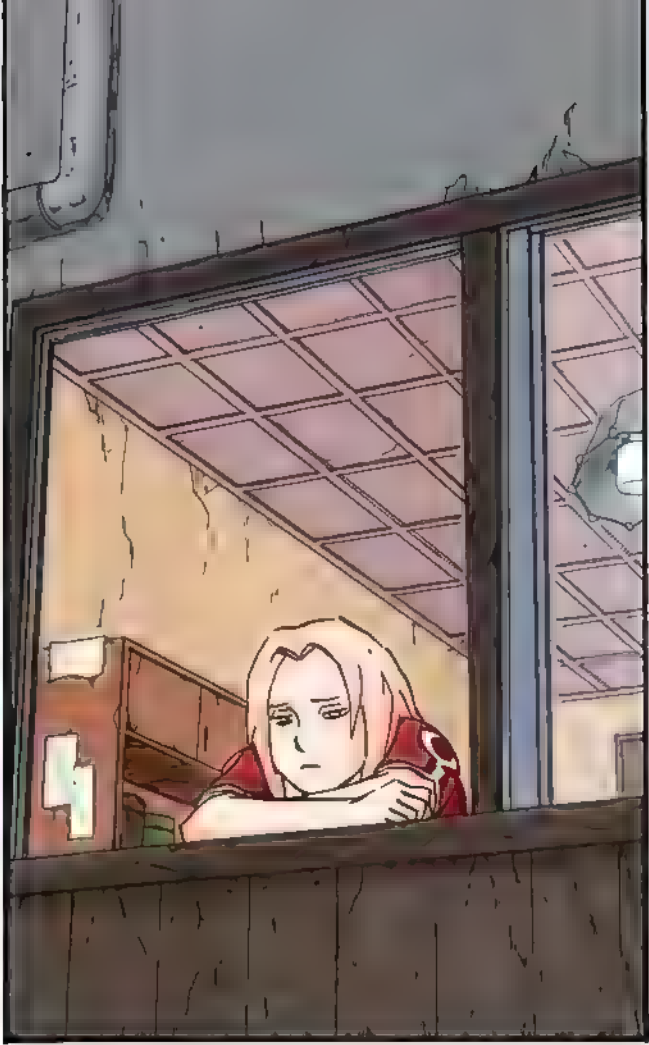
SHISHIRENDAN!
BARRAGE OF
LIONS!!

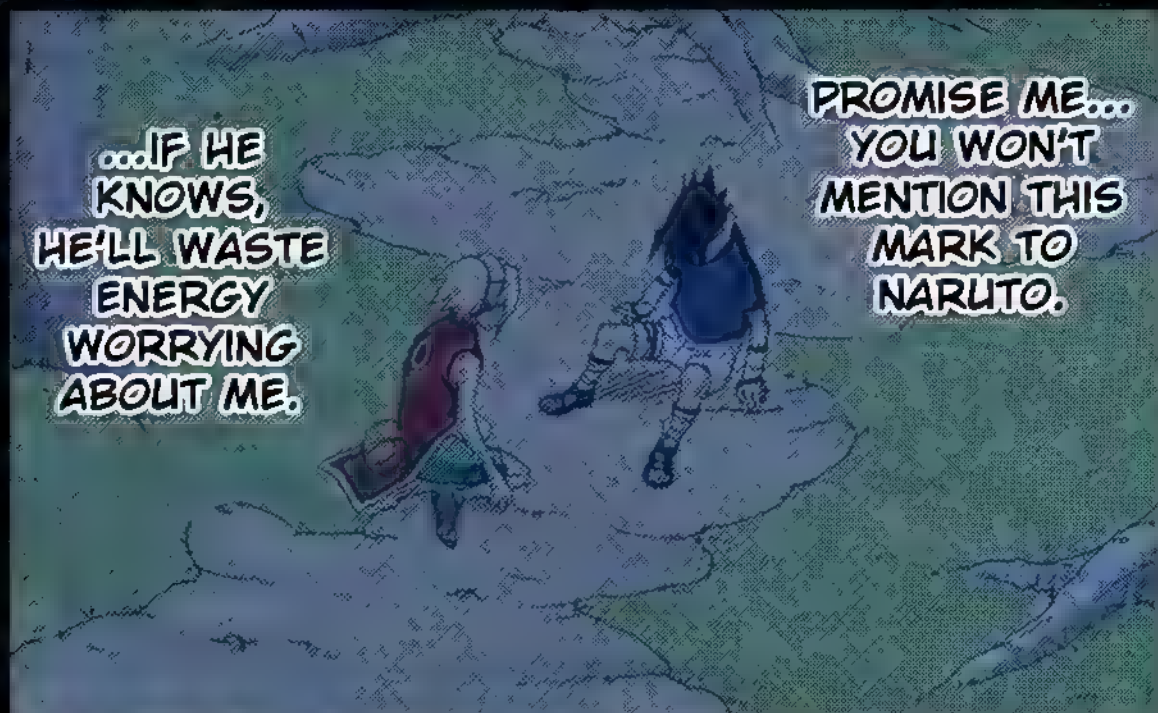
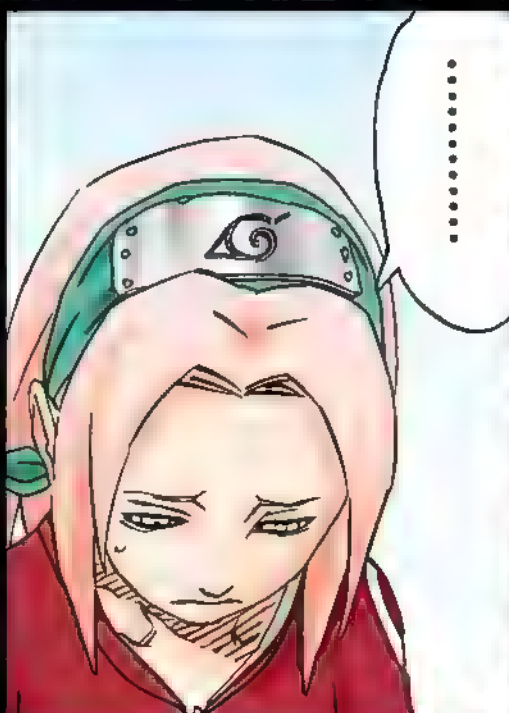
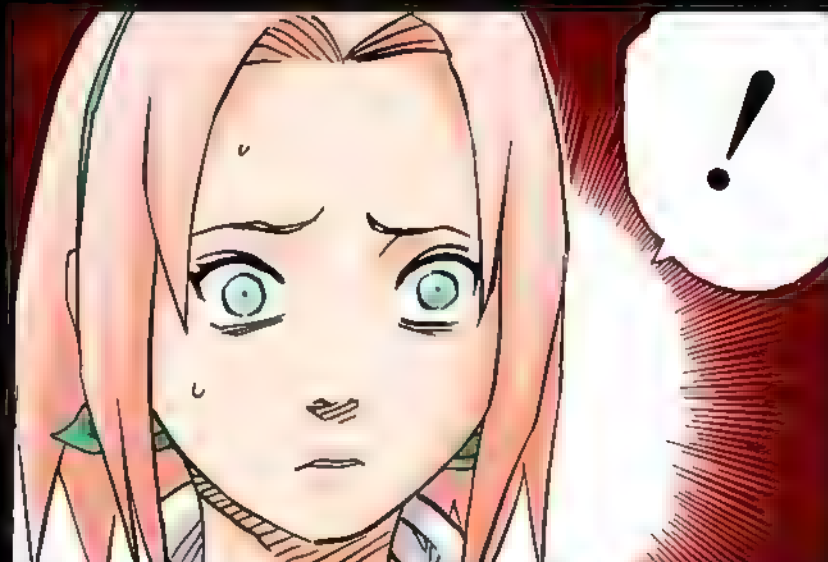
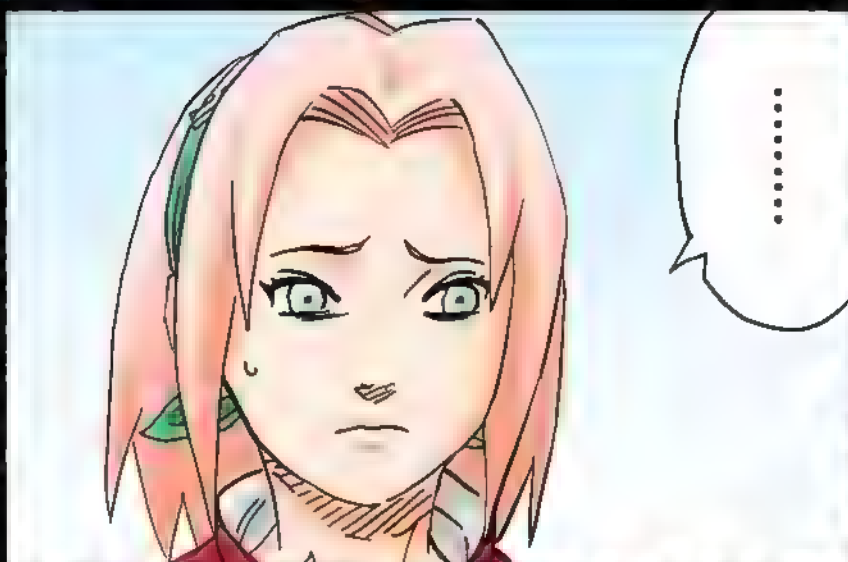
***KABOOM**

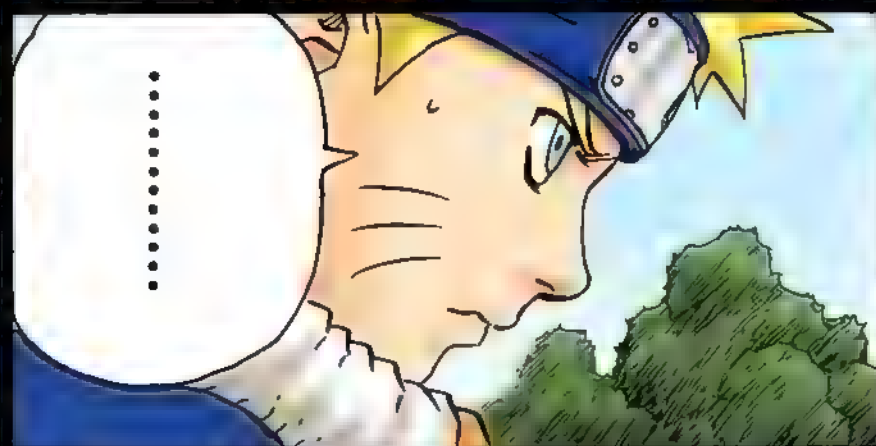
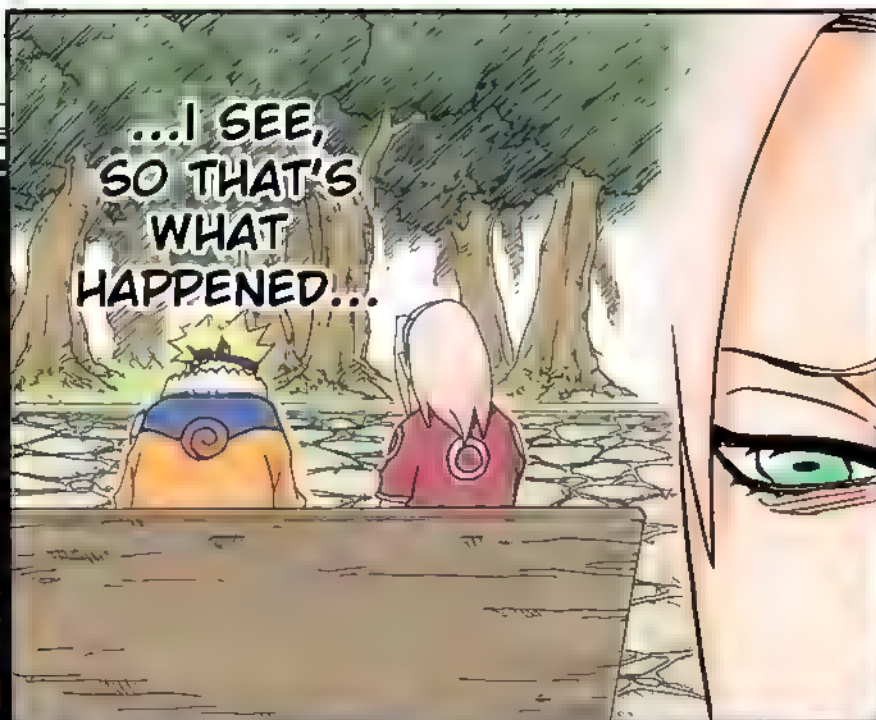
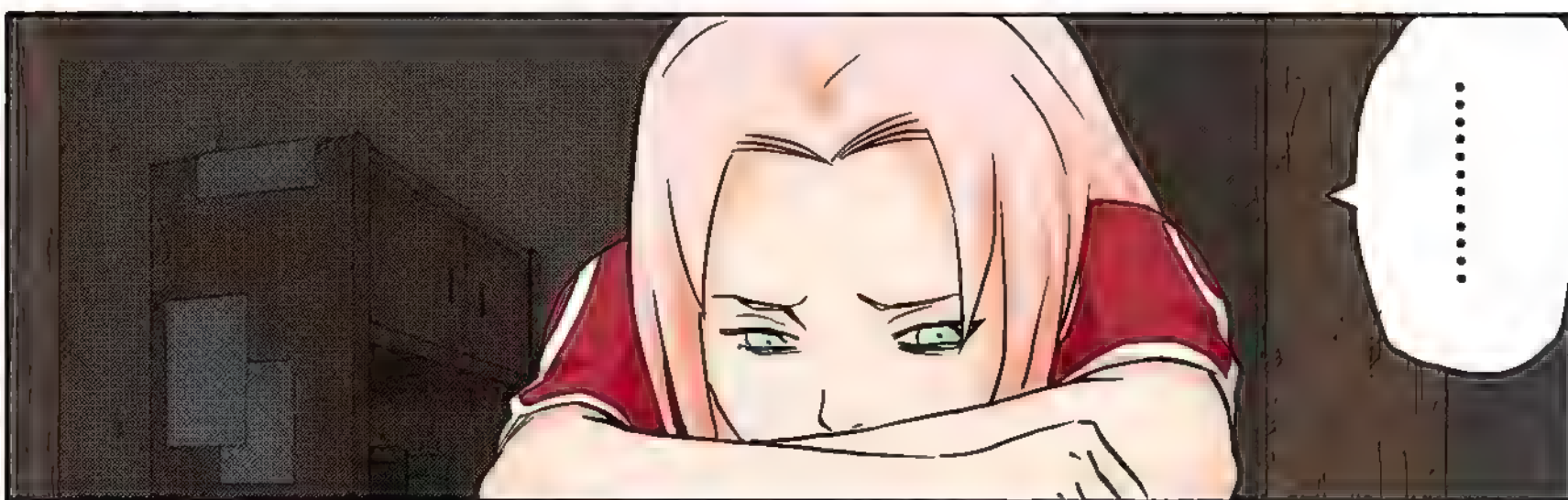
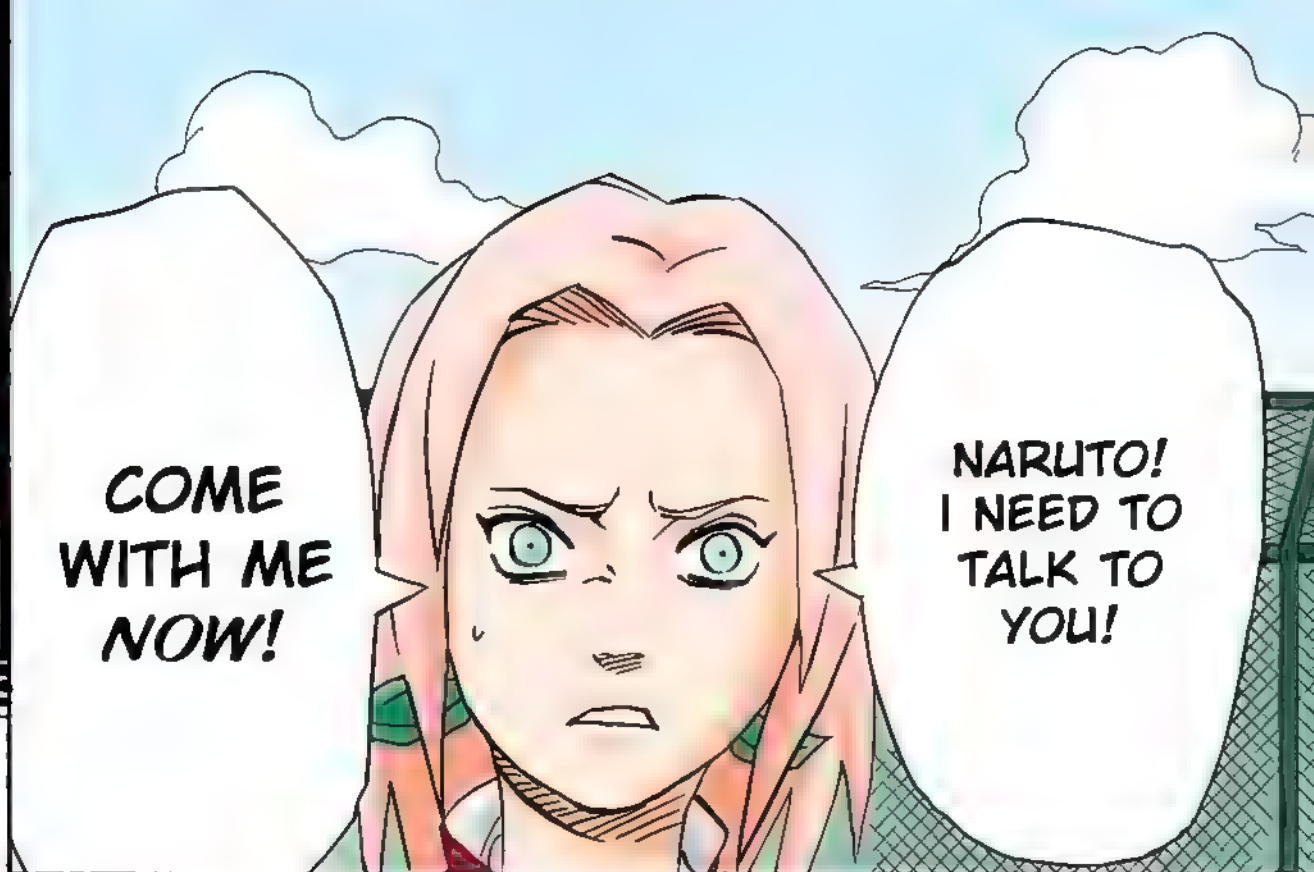
ハッ **チ** **チ**

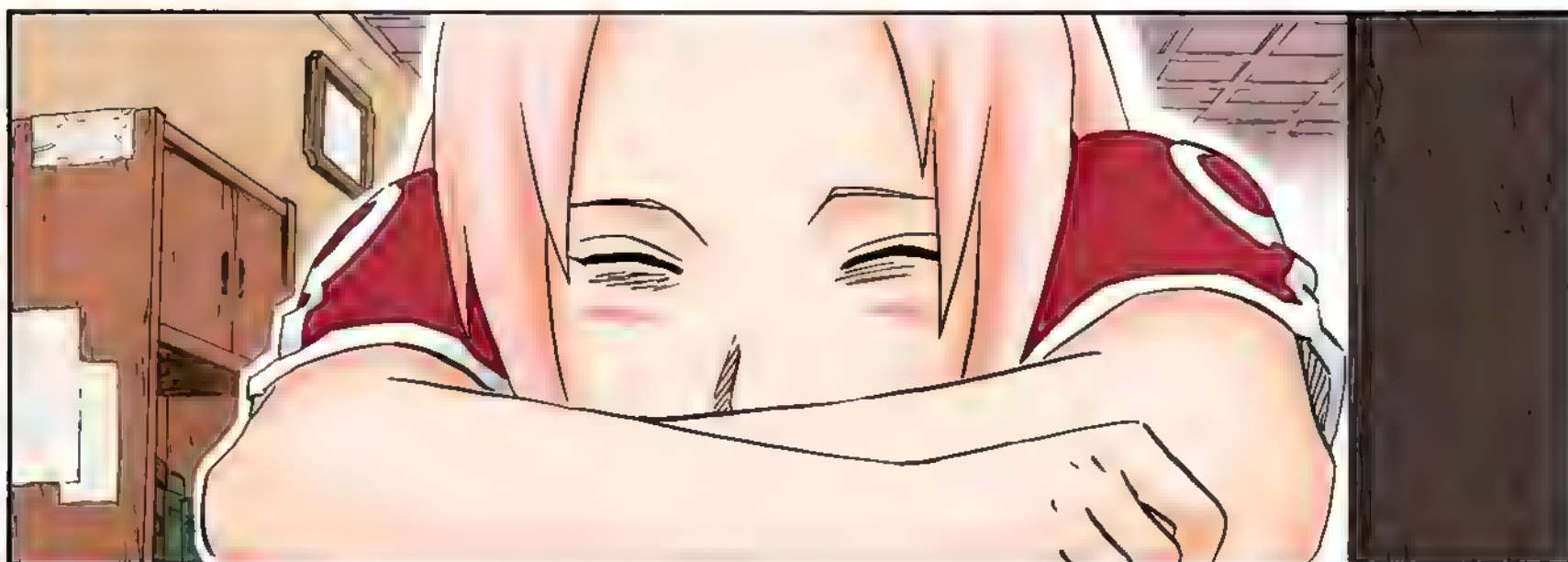
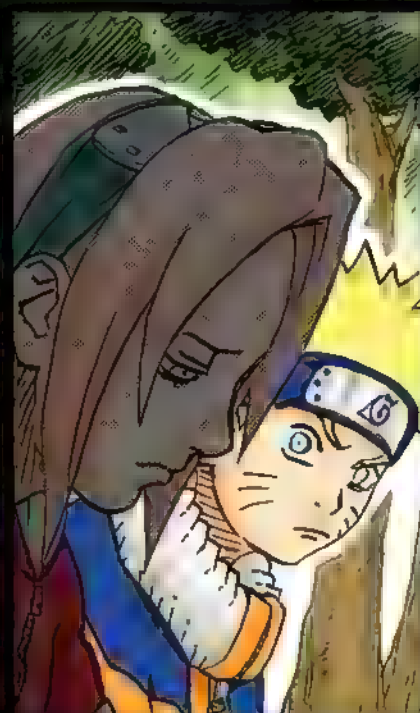
***CRR**

KAK

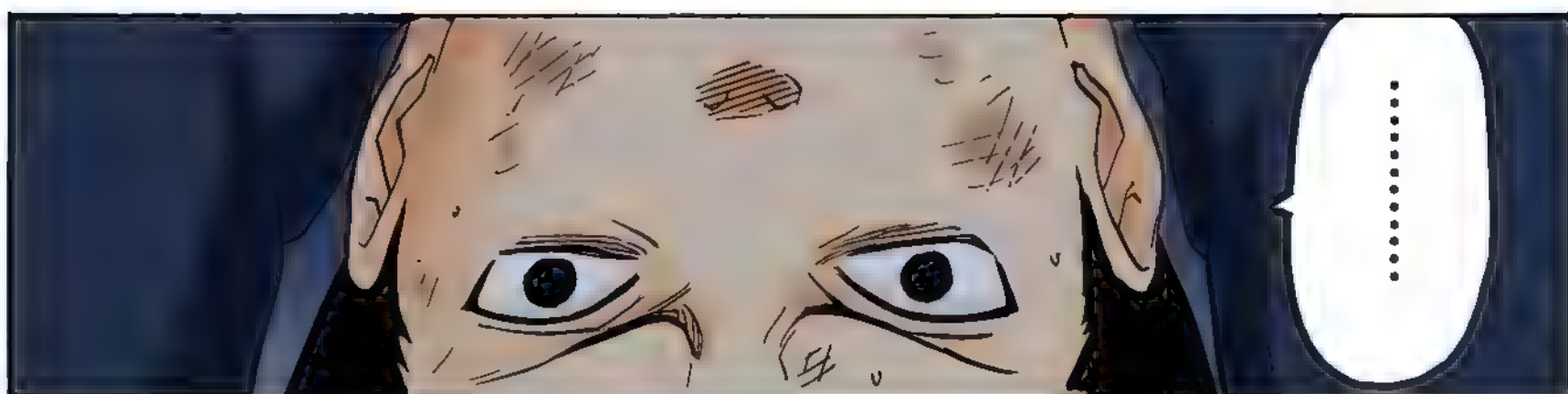
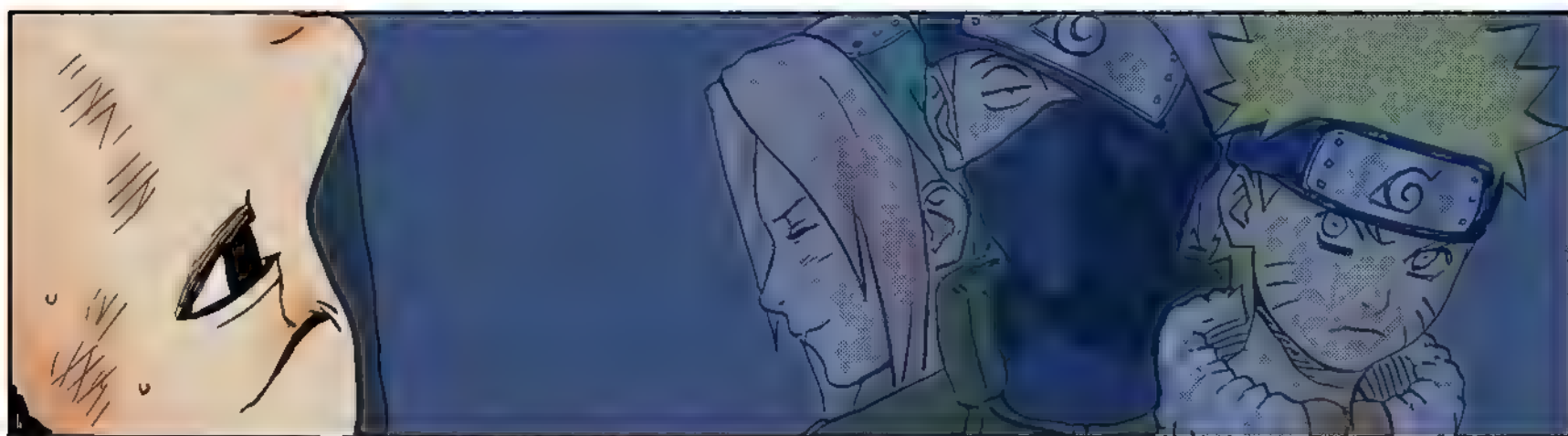










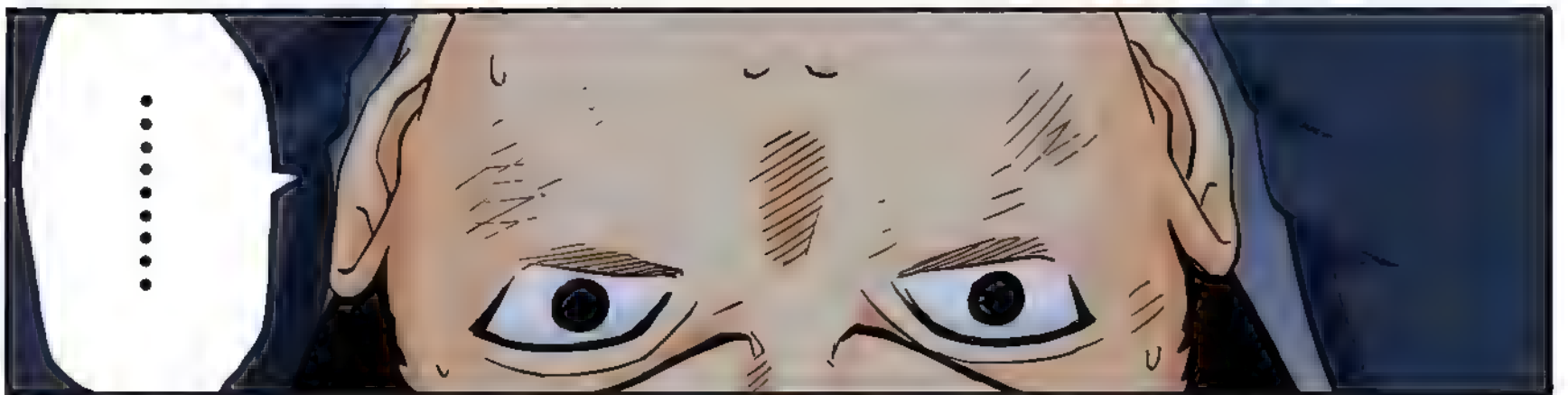
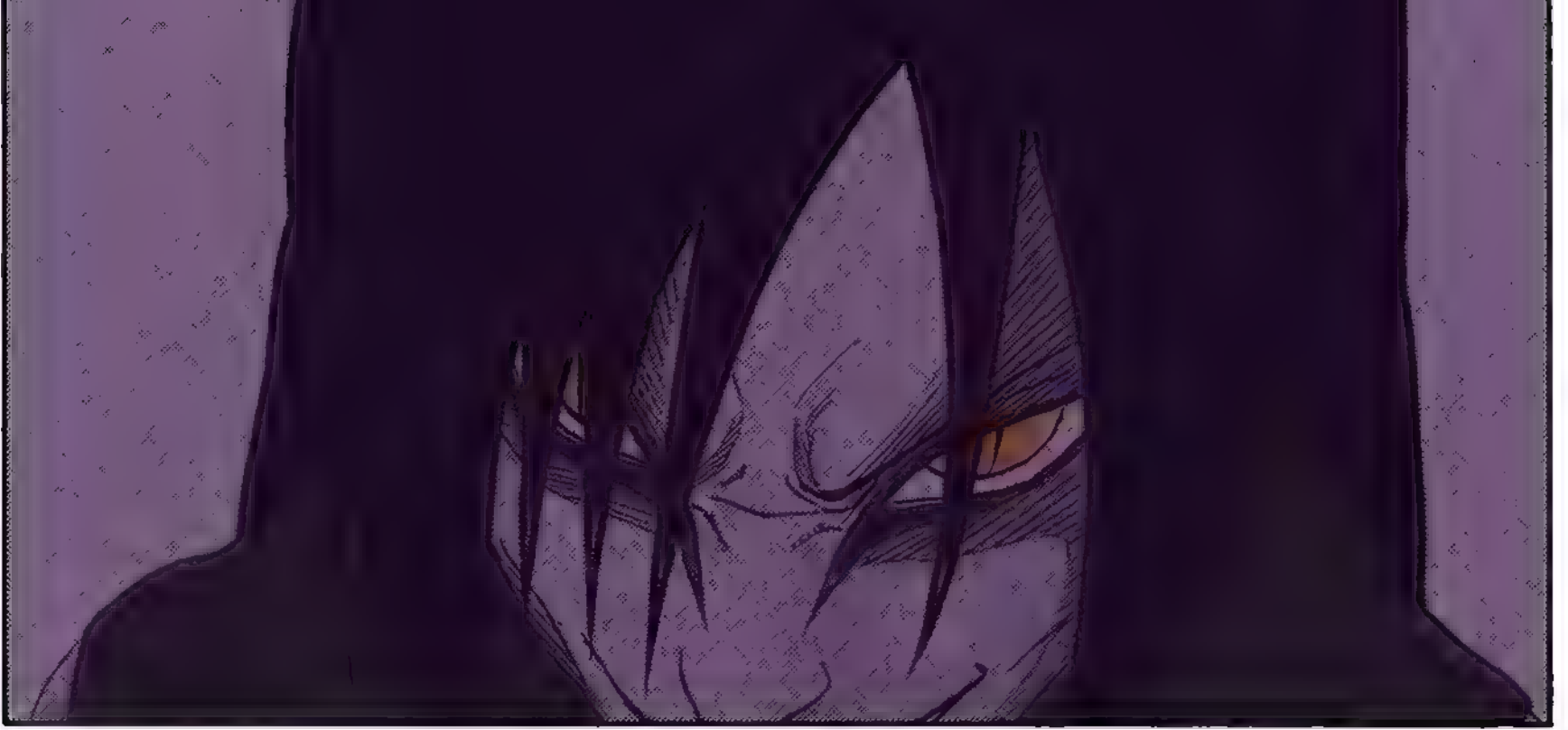


ナンバー

179

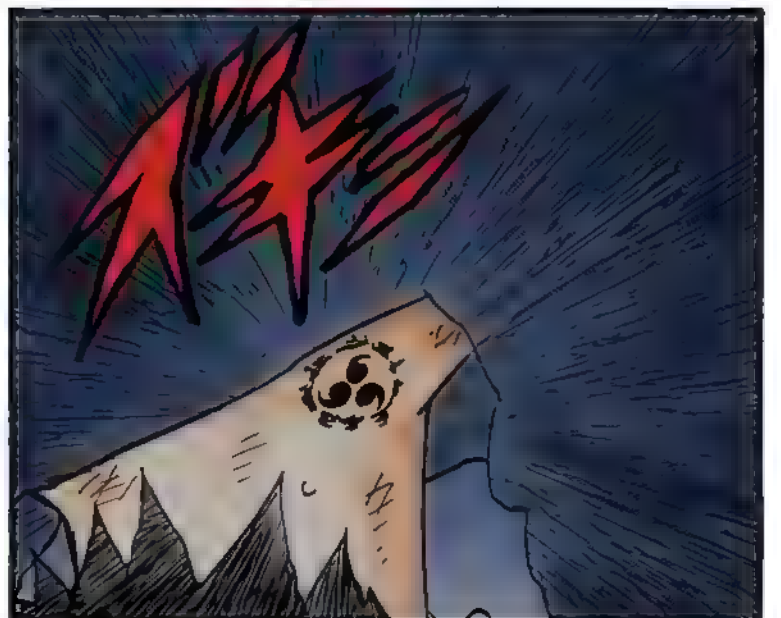


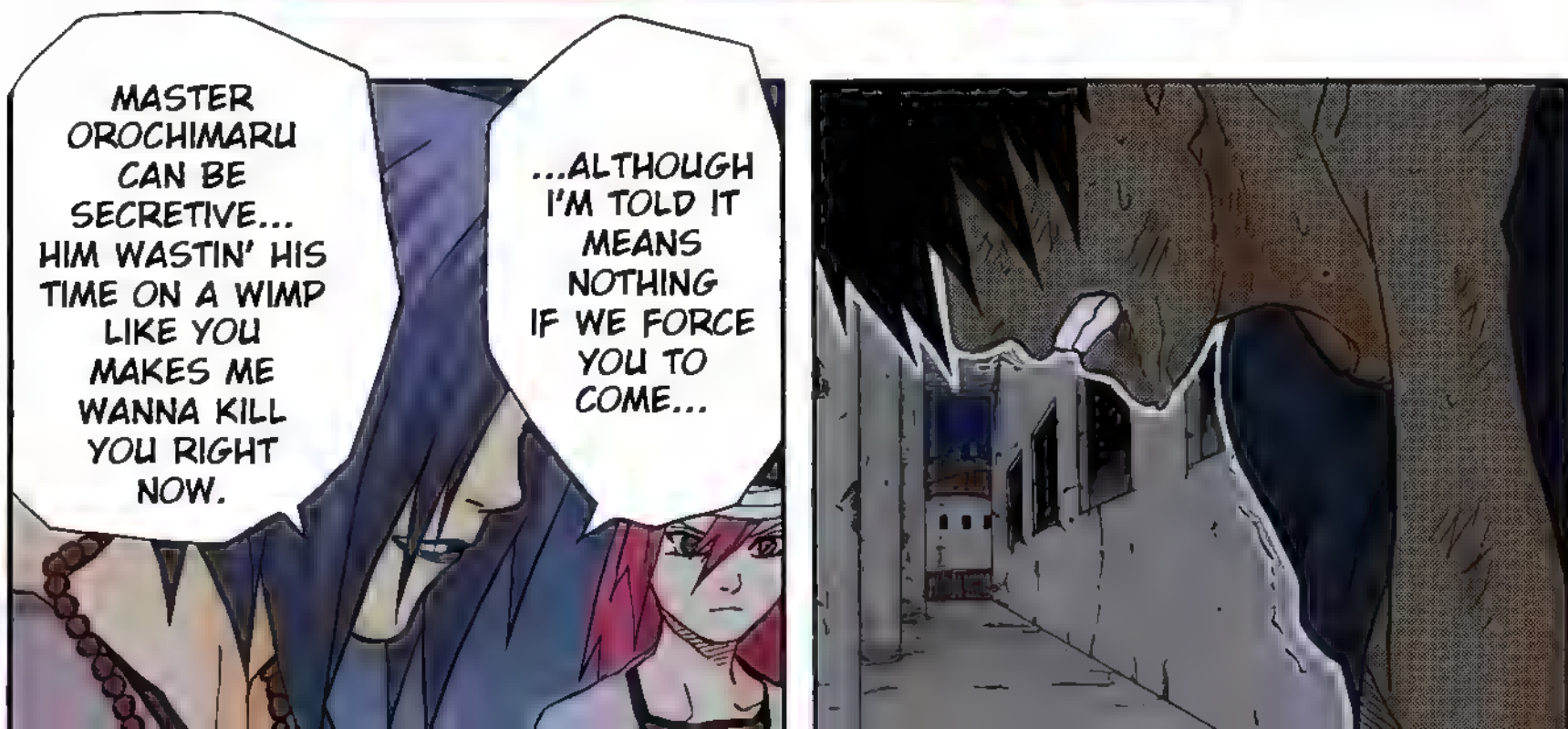
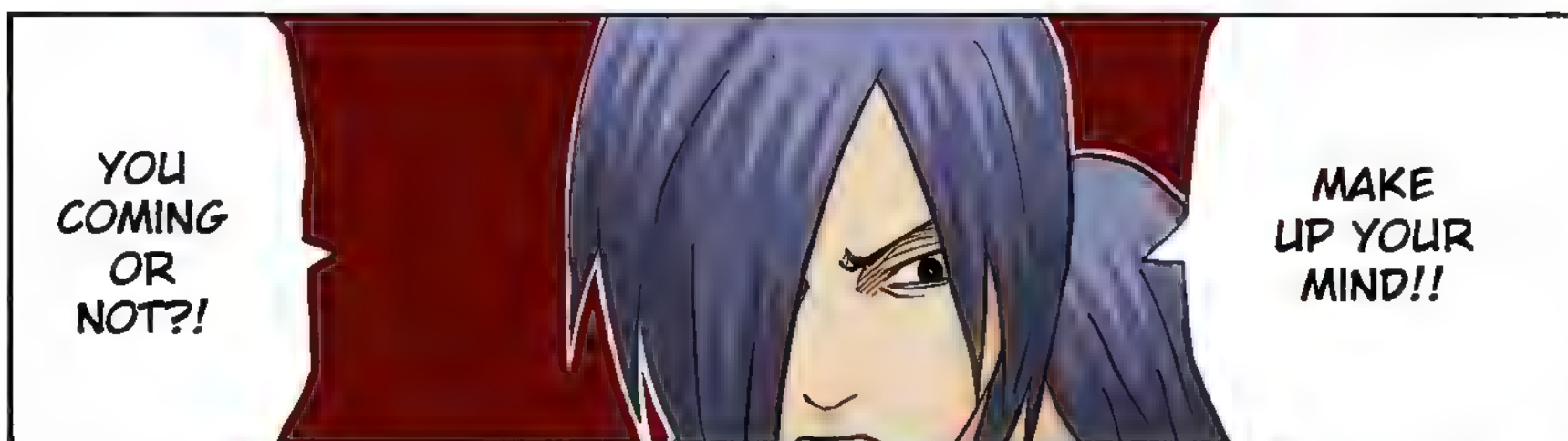
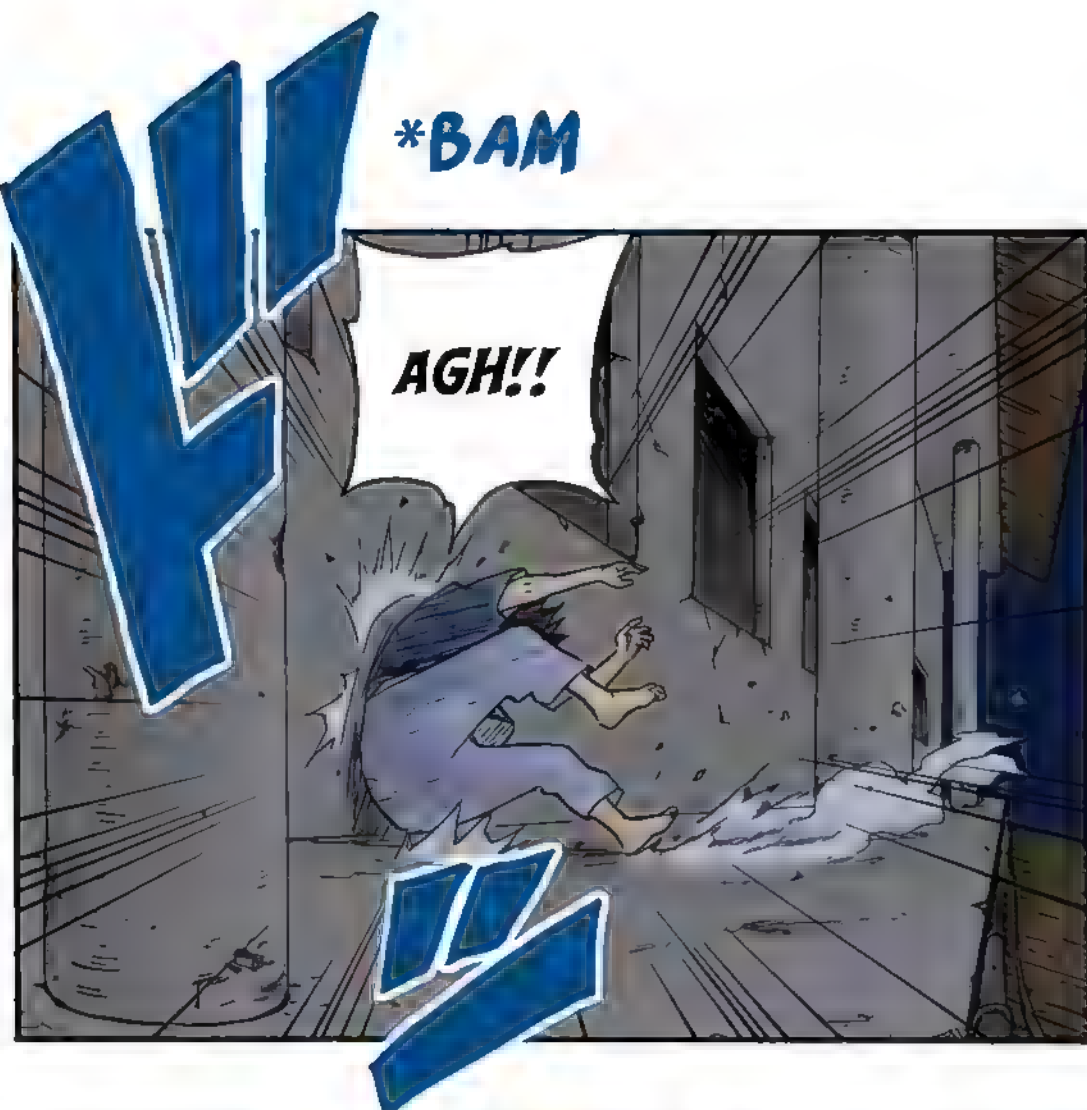
NEVER FORGET....!!



*VWVF

*SZZZ





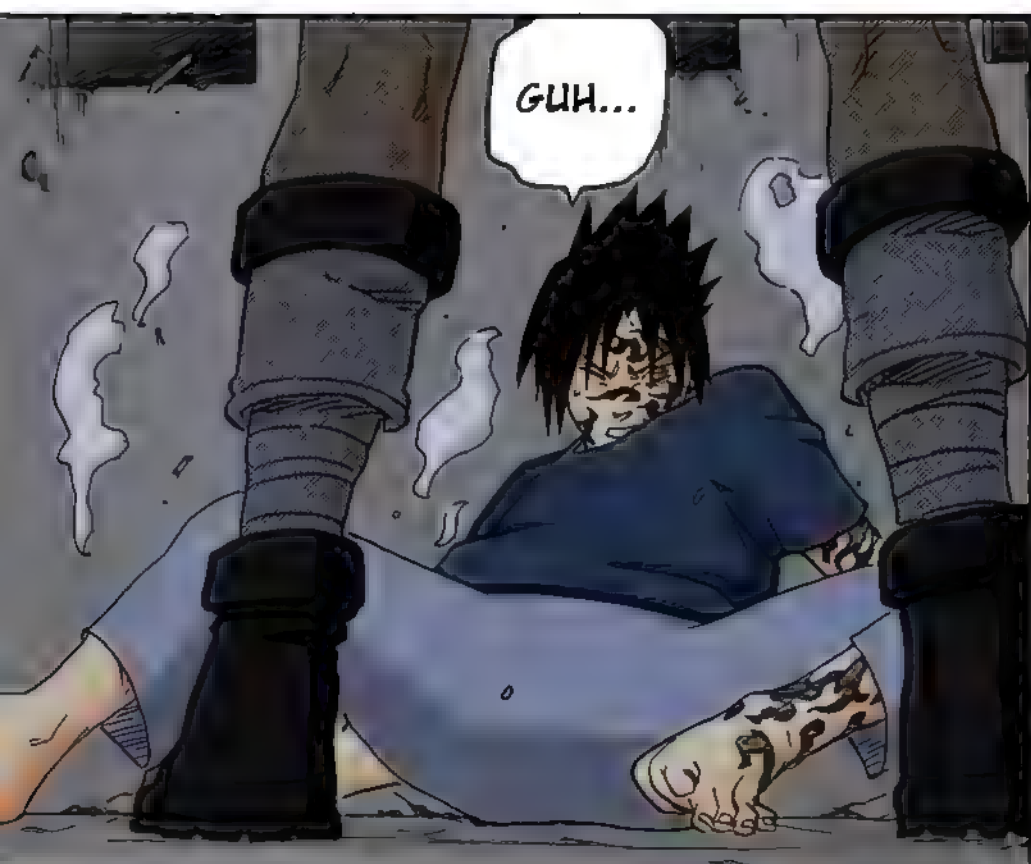




YOU...
HAVE A
CURSE
MARK...?



R
A
A
A
A
!!



GUH...



*THWACK



カ
カ
カ
カ
カ

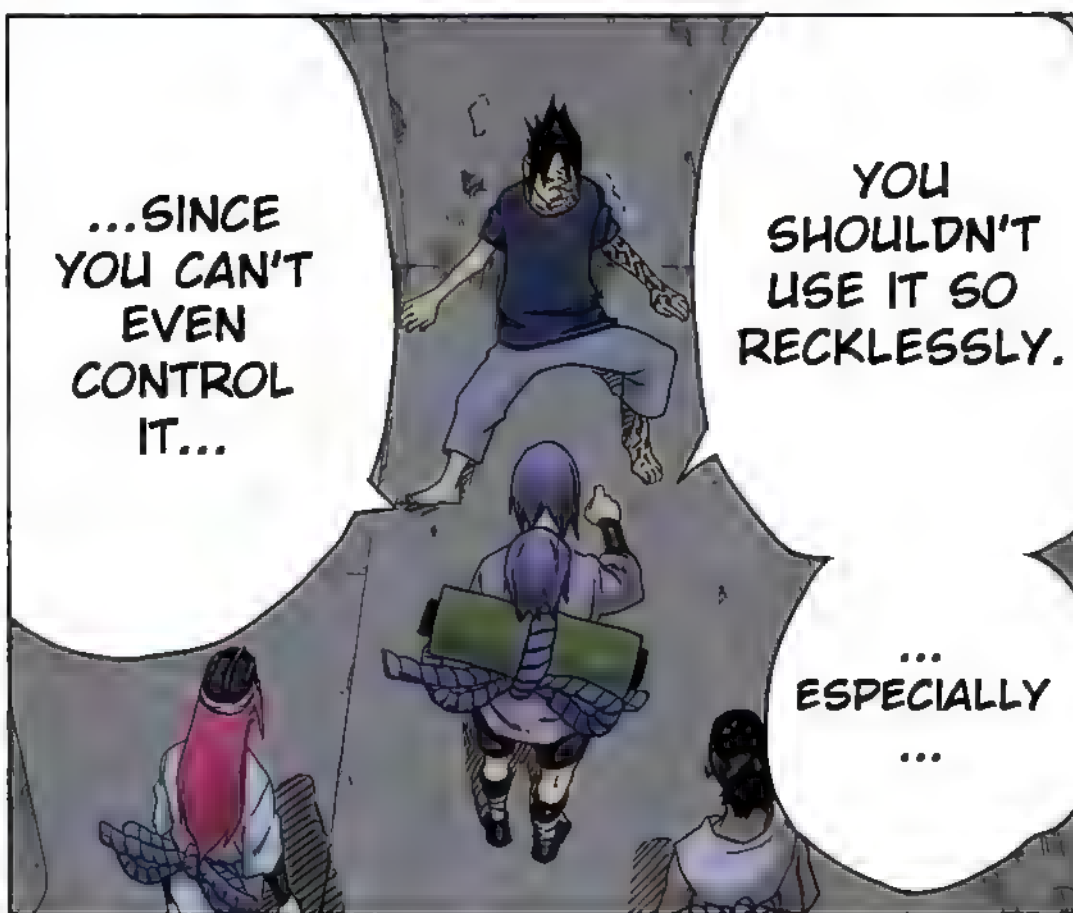
YOU'RE
NOT MASTER
OROCHIMARU'S
ONLY PET.

*ZZZZZ



IF YOU KEEP
YOUR CURSE
MARK IN A
RELEASED
STATE FOR
TOO LONG...

...IT WILL
ERODE YOUR
BODY.



...SINCE
YOU CAN'T
EVEN
CONTROL
IT...

YOU
SHOULDN'T
USE IT SO
RECKLESSLY.

...
ESPECIALLY
...



.....

SHHH...

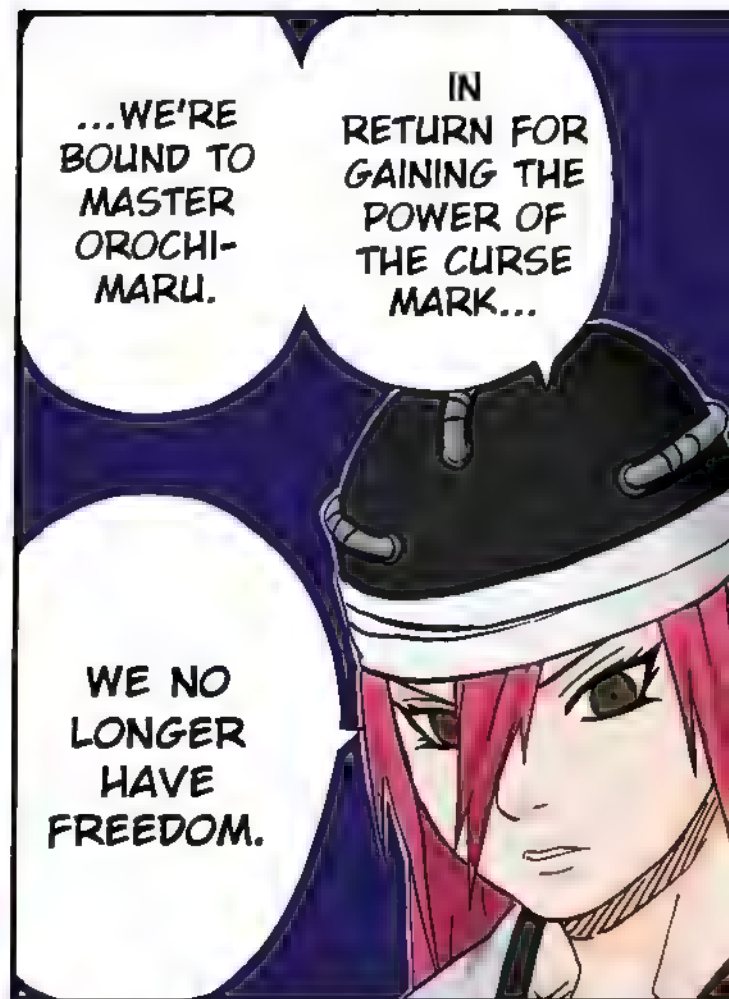
SHHH...

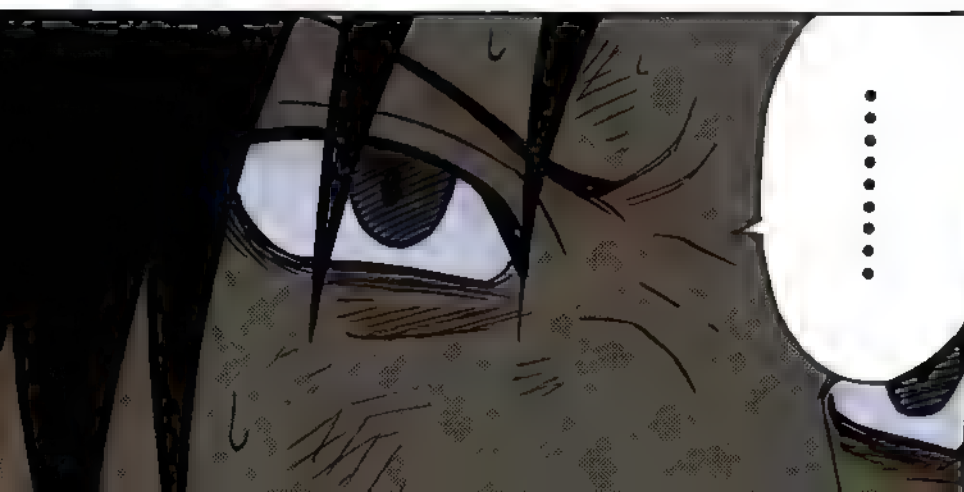
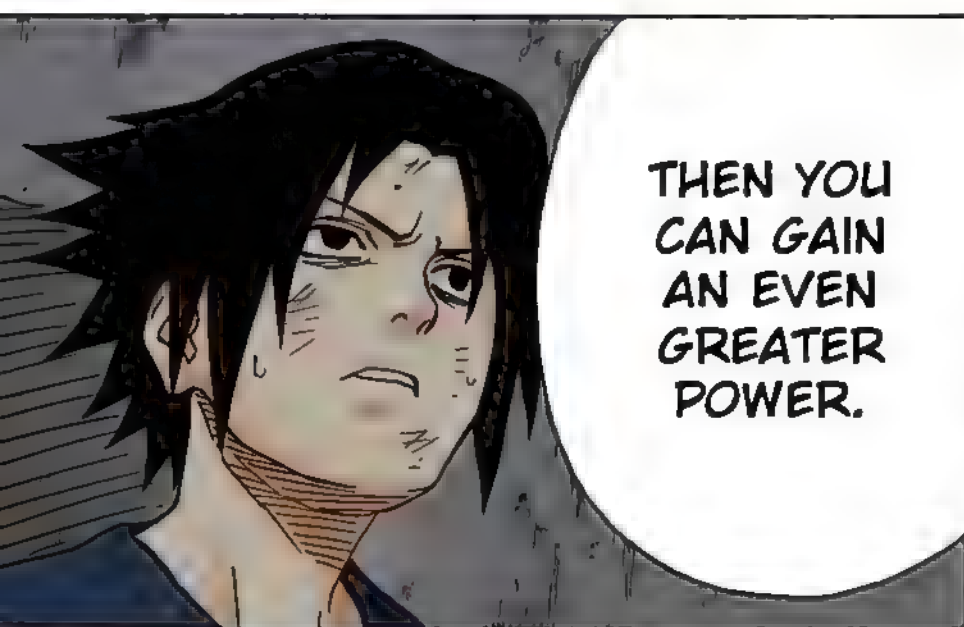
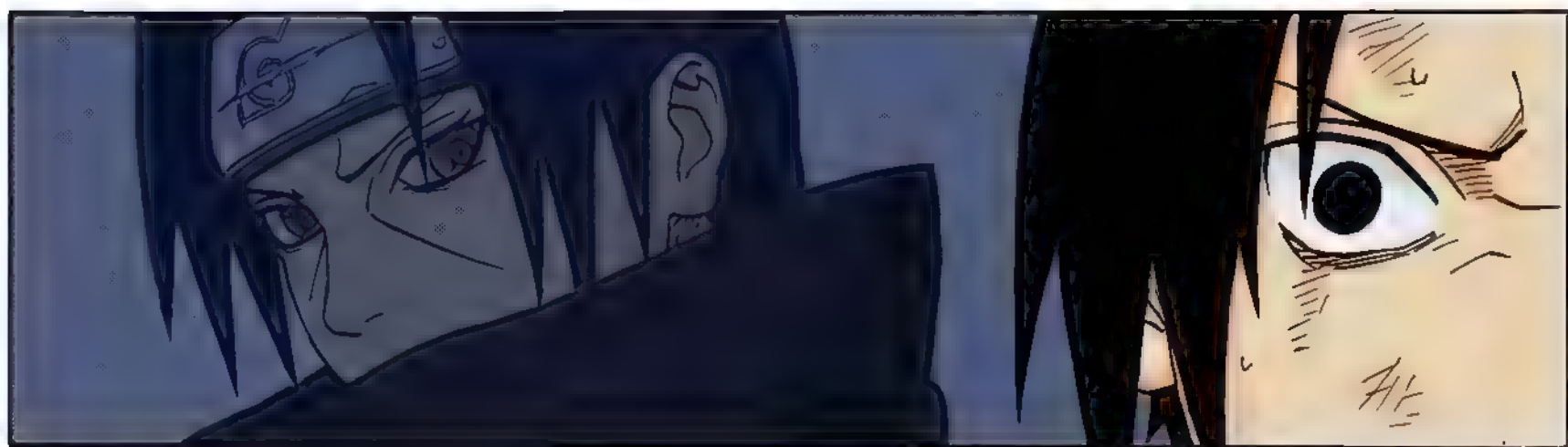


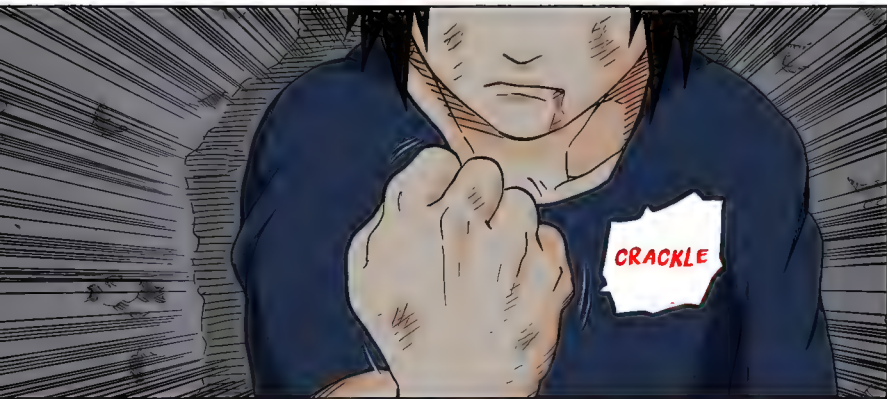
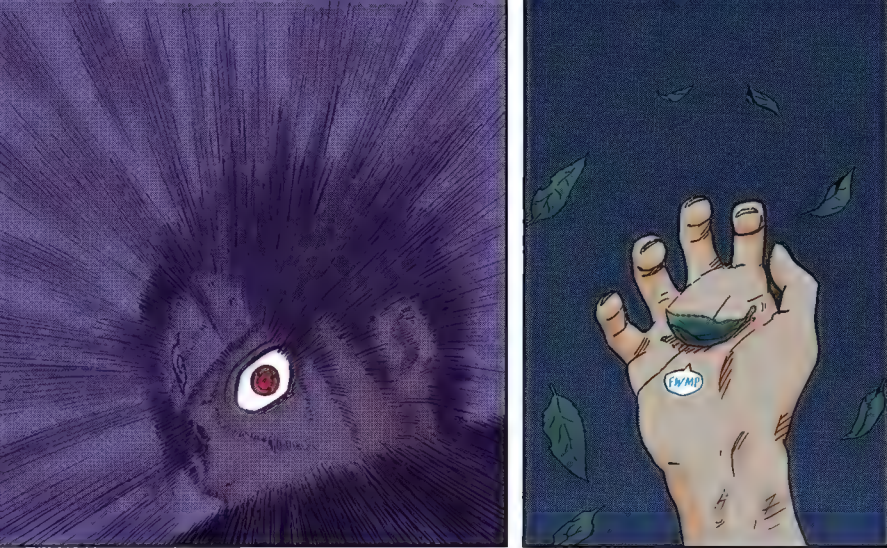
ONCE
THE MARK
COMPLETELY
ERODES
YOU...

LOOKS LIKE
YOU'RE STILL
IN FIRST
STATE...

SO YOU'RE
ONLY DYING
SLOWLY...

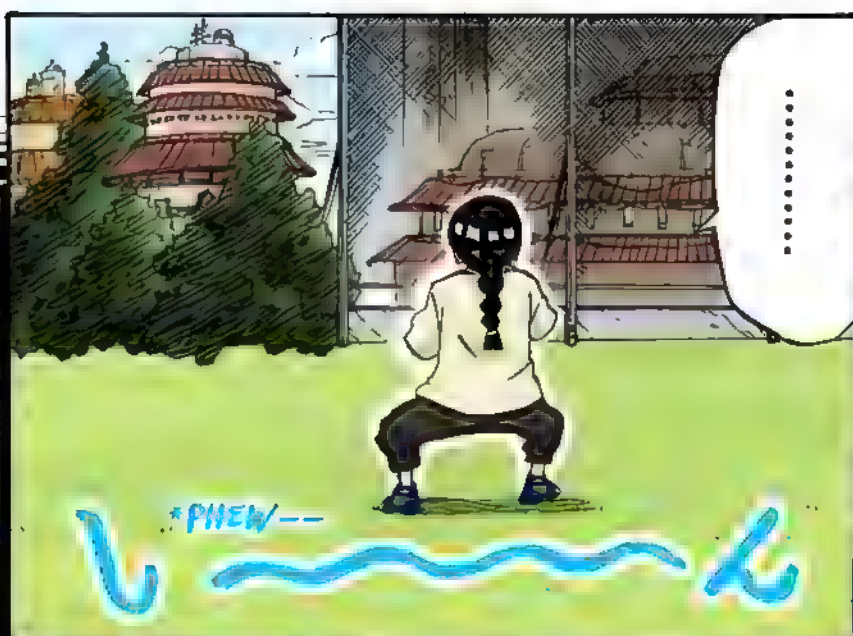


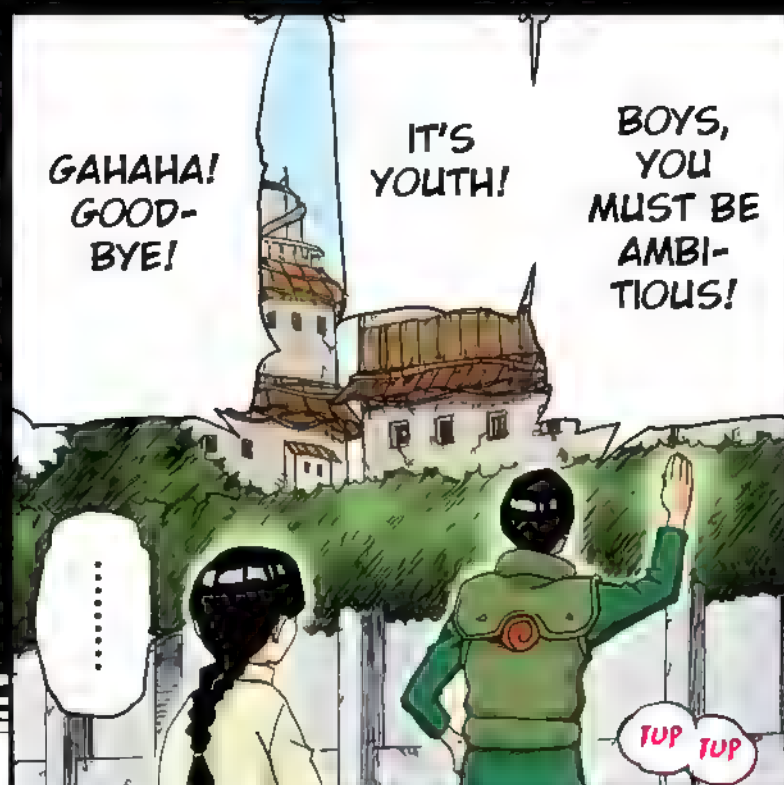
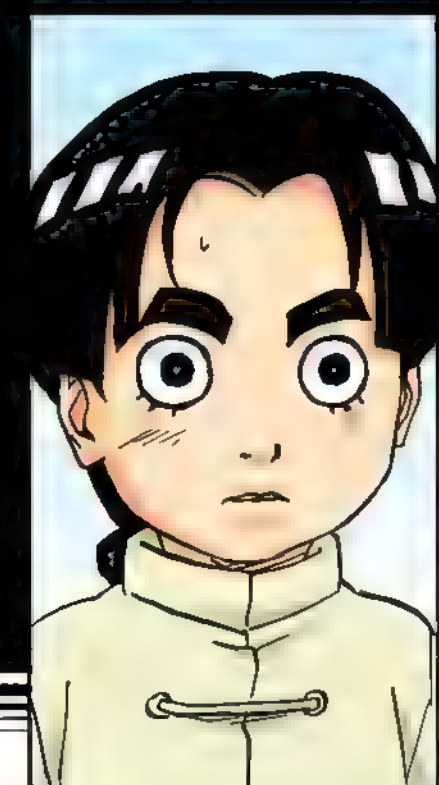






*RRR









THAT'S NOT
NECESSARILY
TRUE IF
YOU HAVE
PASSION!!



.....

*SLUMP...
しゅん...



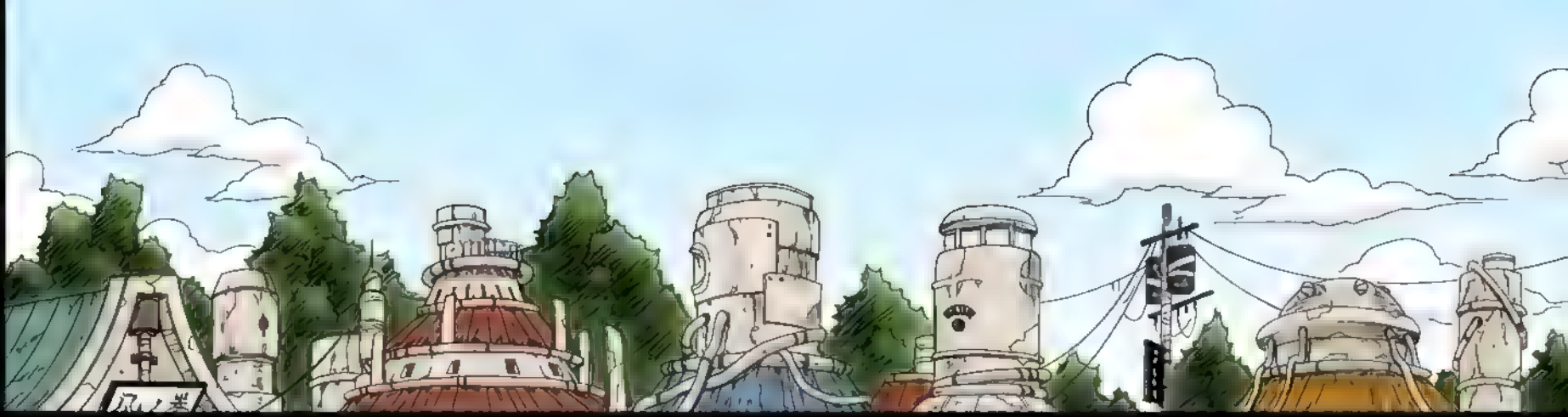
...I WAS
DRAWN
TO
MASTER
GUY.

BUT
IT WILL
TAKE
HARD
WORK!!



...YOU CAN
BECOME
A SPLENDID
NINJA!!

IF YOU
CAN COMPETE
AGAINST A
TRUE RIVAL...



WE'RE BOTH AT 48 WINS!!

LET'S NOT DO THIS TODAY...

THIS WILL PUT ONE OF US OVER THE OTHER!



...YEAH! SO, WHAT'LL IT BE?

GUESS YOU WON'T TAKE NO FOR AN ANSWER...

TAIJUTSU? 100 METER DASH?

FINE... THEN IT'S MY TURN TO DECIDE WHAT EVENT WE'LL COMPETE IN...

... ROSHAMBO!

HOW ABOUT...



IT
LOOKS
LIKE IT...

I GET THE
FEELING
HE'S JUST
BEIN' PLAYED
WITH, DON'T
YOU?



I
SEE...



ROSHAM-
BO...?!

YOU
KNOW
HOW THEY
SAY LUCK'S
PART OF
SKILL?



**THAT'S A
PROMISE!!!**

**I
WILL
NOT
LOSE!!**

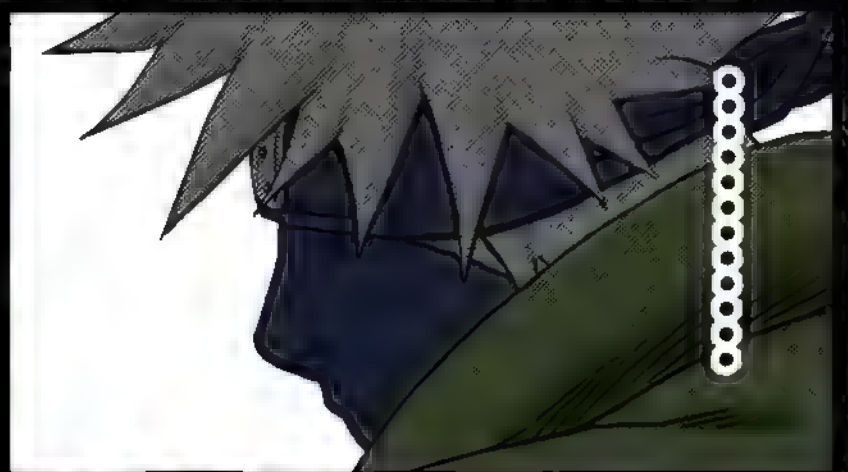
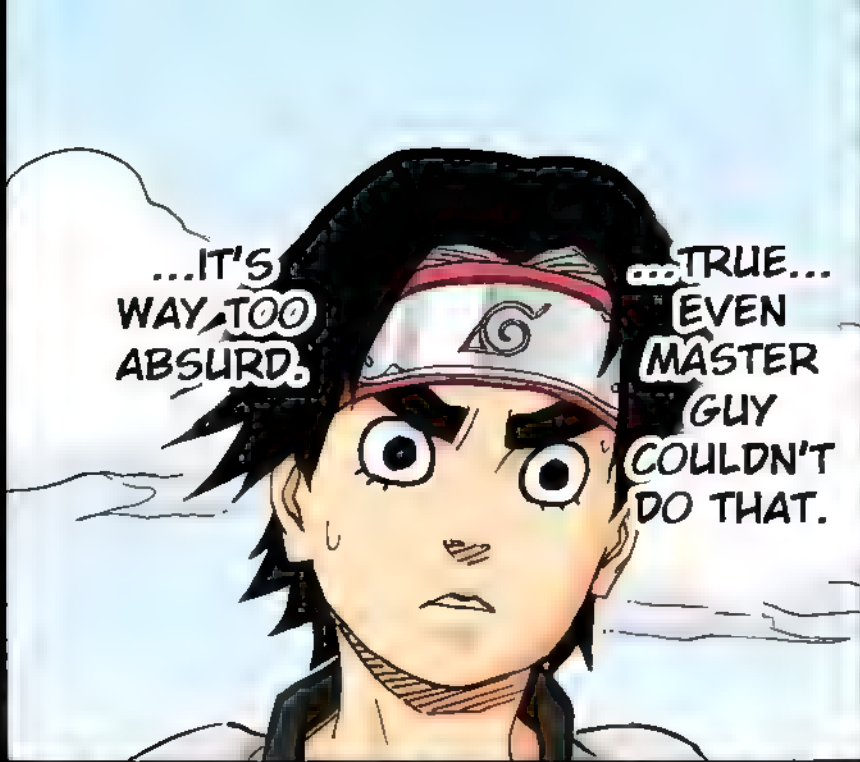
**IF I DO,
I'LL DO
500 LAPS
AROUND KONOHA
DOIN' A
HANDSTAND!!**



MAKIN' UP
YOUR OWN
RULES...

NOT
THIS
AGAIN...





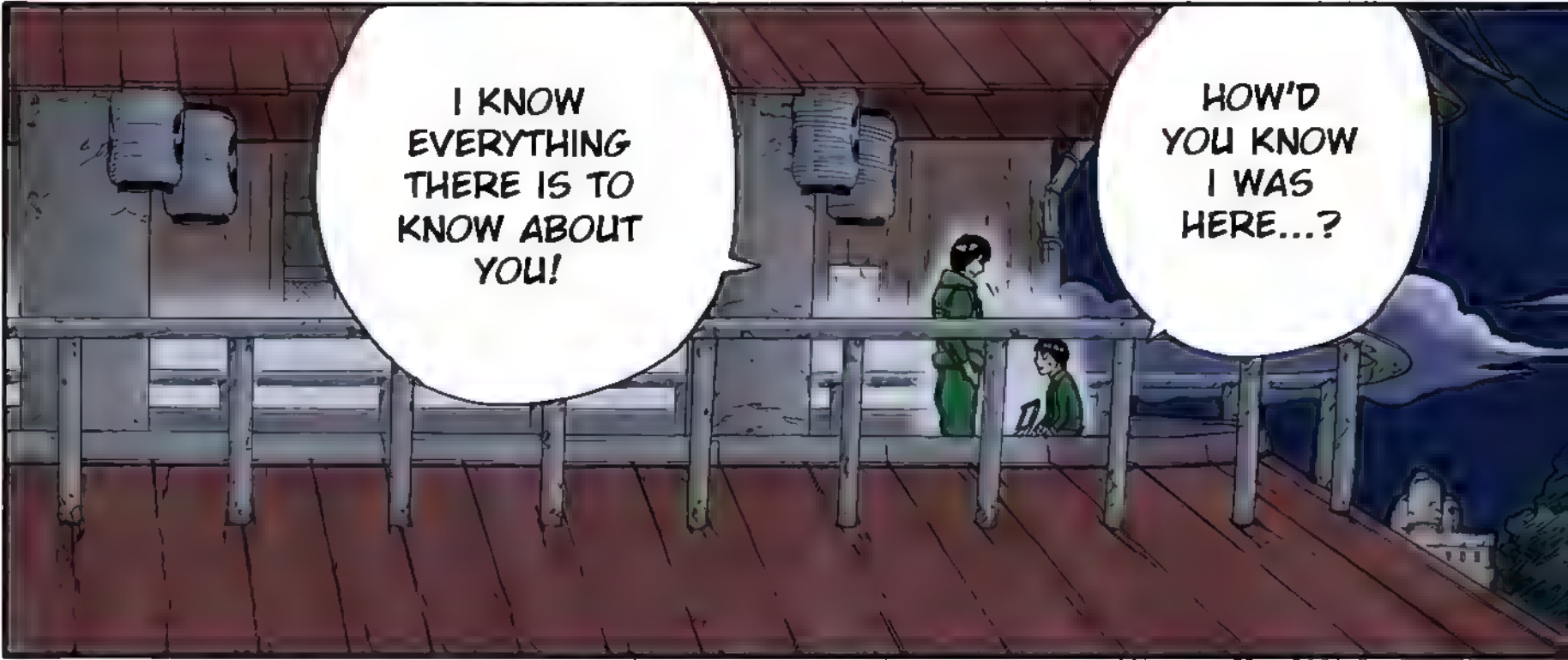


ナンバー



180 : A PROMISE!!







I
SWORE
ON...

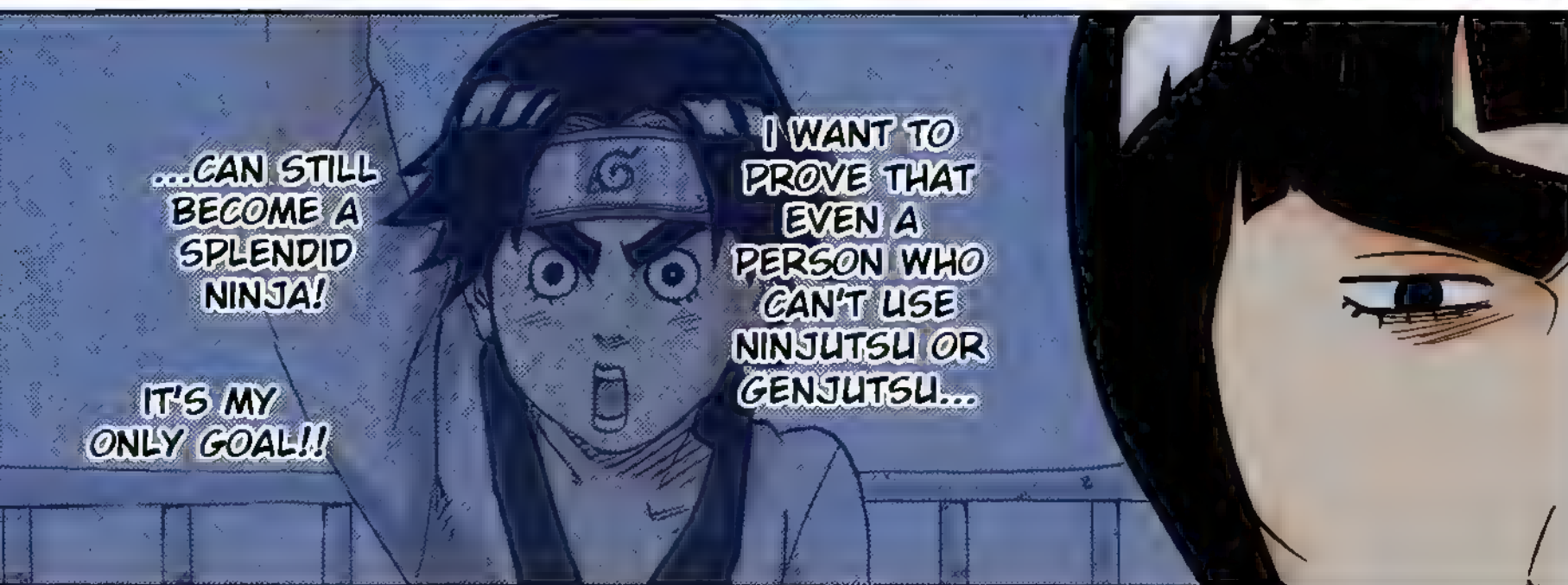
WHEN
I FIRST
BECAME
A GENIN...

ALL MY
DREAMS
HERE.



I WAS
SERIOUS.

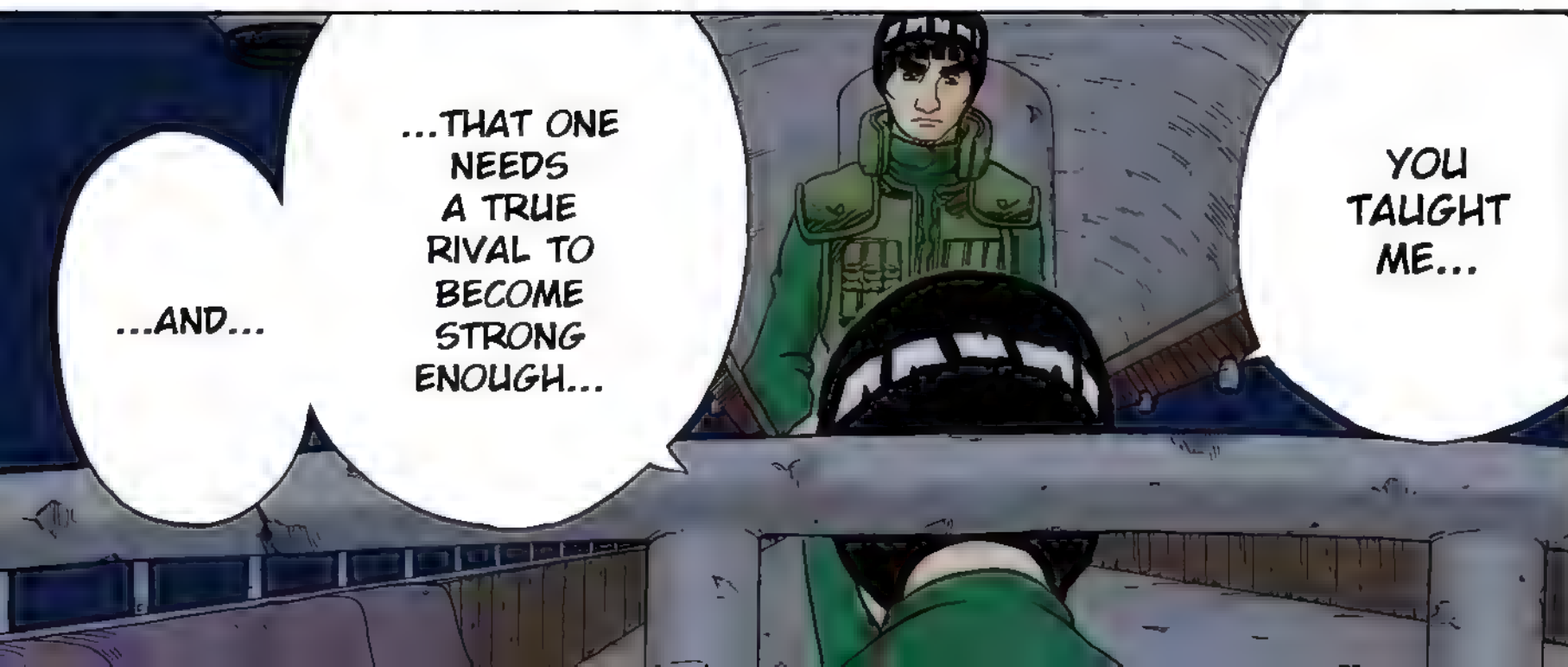
ALTHOUGH
NEJI
LAUGHED
AT ME...



...CAN STILL
BECOME A
SPLENDID
NINJA!

IT'S MY
ONLY GOAL!!

I WANT TO
PROVE THAT
EVEN A
PERSON WHO
CAN'T USE
NINJUTSU OR
GENJUTSU...



...AND...

...THAT ONE
NEEDS
A TRUE
RIVAL TO
BECOME
STRONG
ENOUGH...

YOU
TAUGHT
ME...



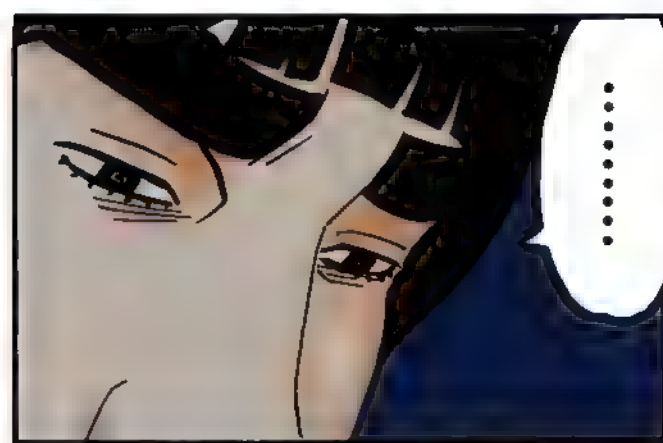
THAT IT
WOULD TAKE
HARD WORK...



...WHO'D BE
STRAIGHT
WITH ME
ABOUT
ANYTHING.

DURING MY
DAYS AT THE
ACADEMY...
I DIDN'T HAVE
A SINGLE FRIEND
OR A TEACHER...

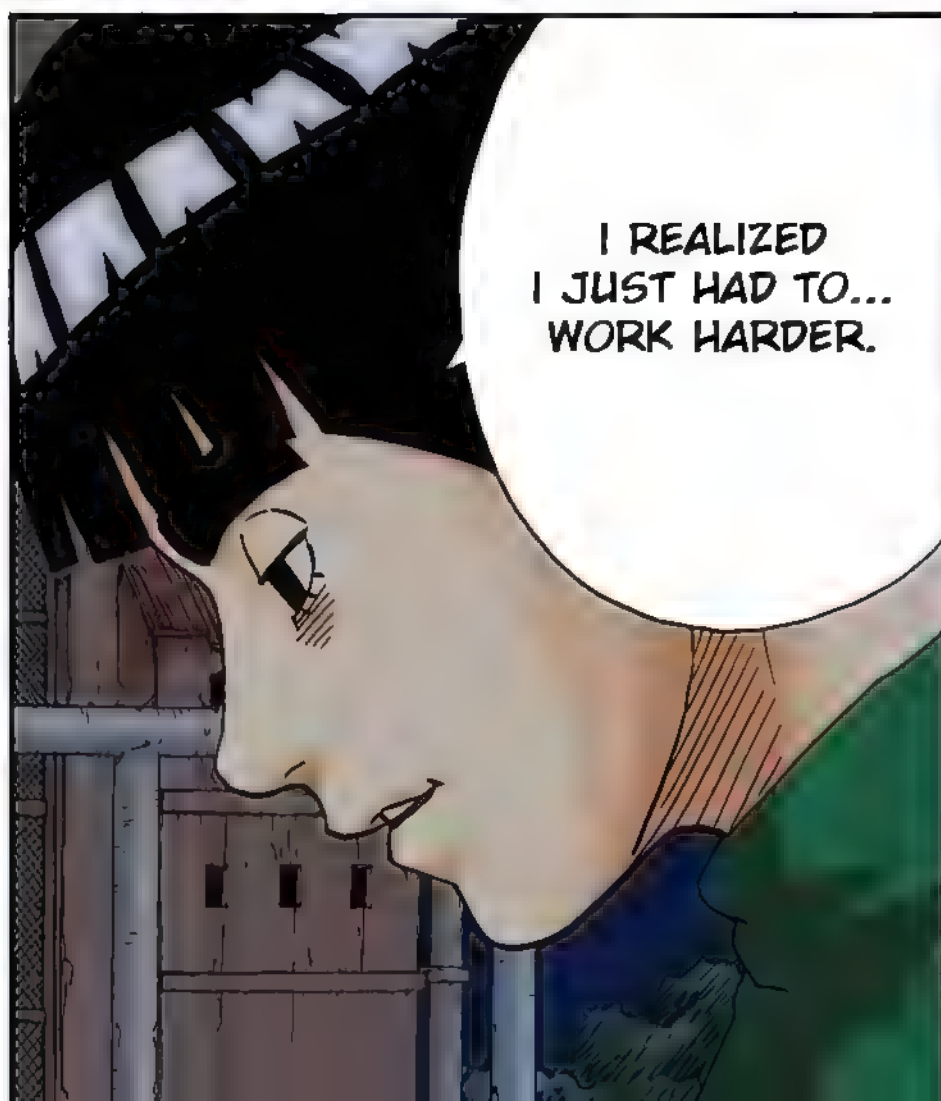
I WAS
HAPPY.



...



HEH...

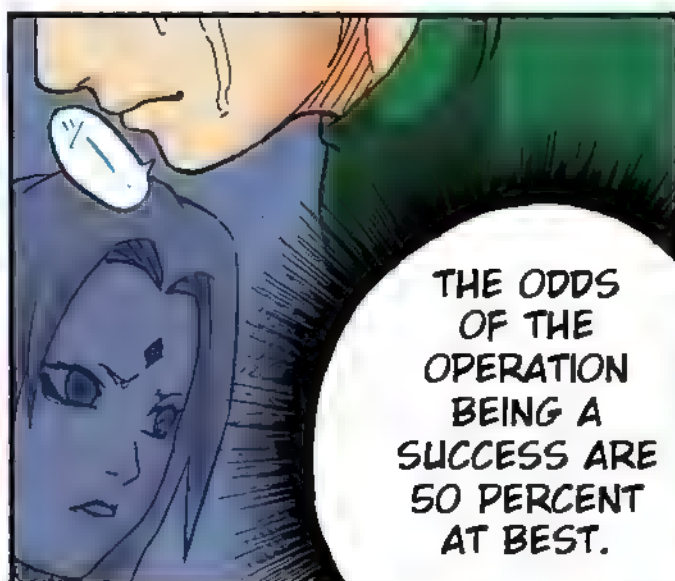
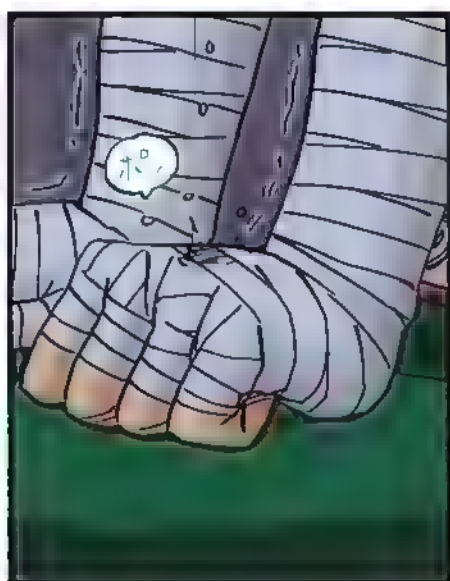
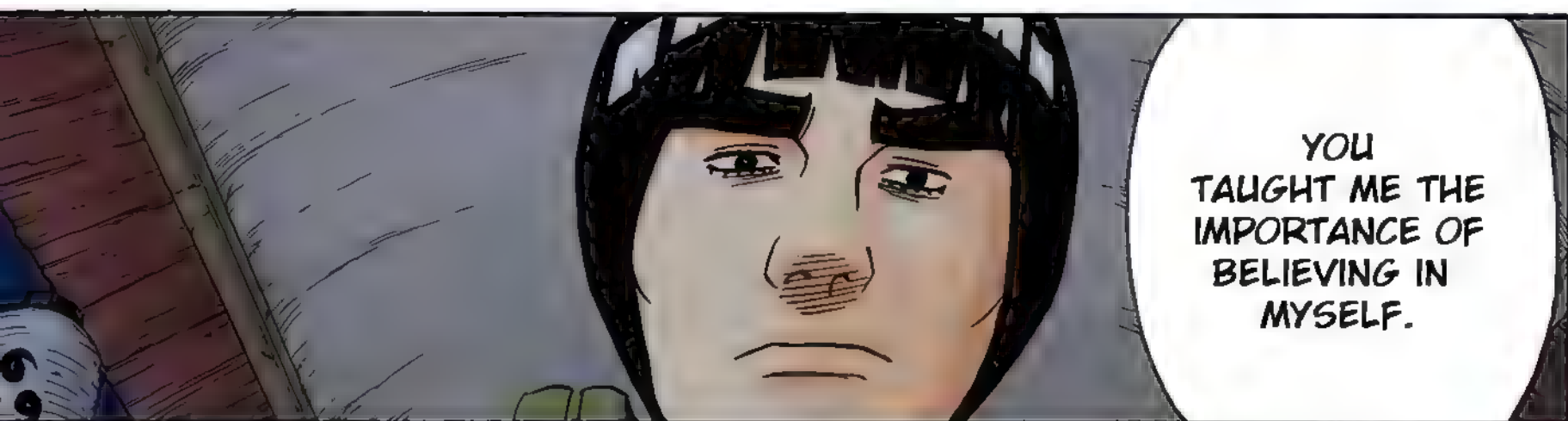


I REALIZED
I JUST HAD TO...
WORK HARDER.



IT
WAS A
RELIEF.

YOU
LIFTED
THE FOG
FROM MY
EYES.



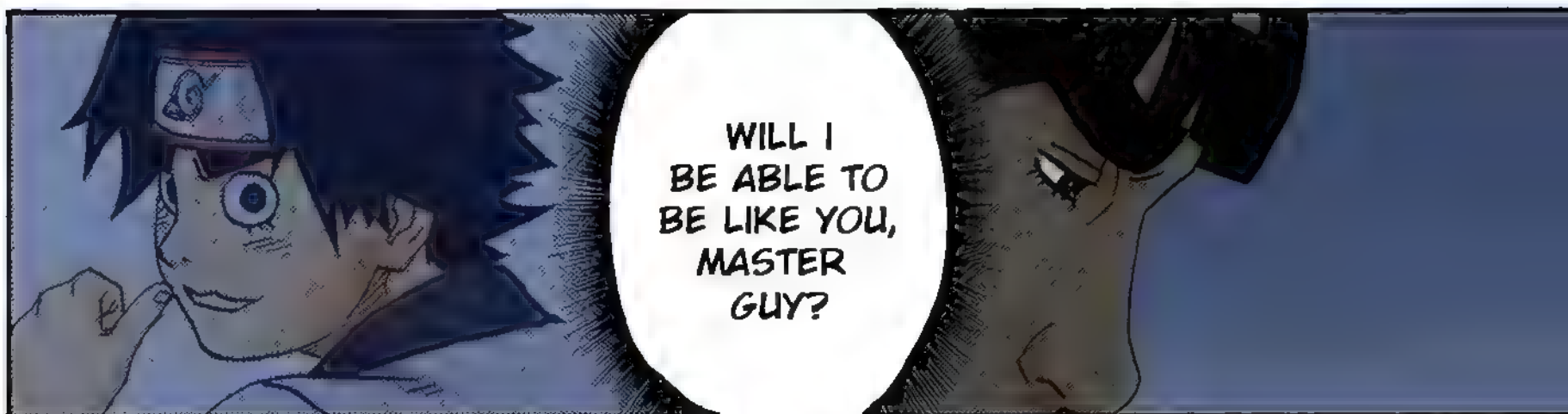
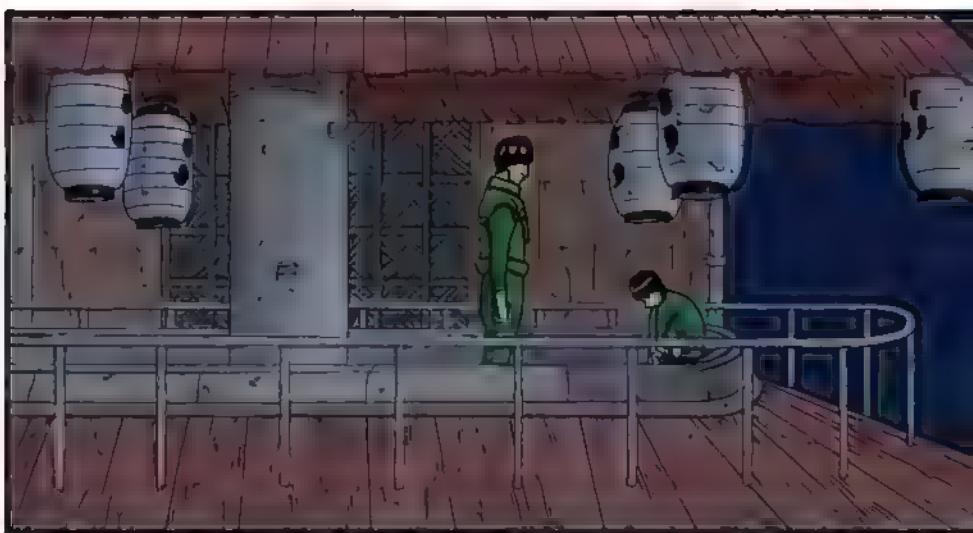


WORKING
HARD OR
BELIEVING
IN MYSELF
WON'T
CHANGE
A THING!

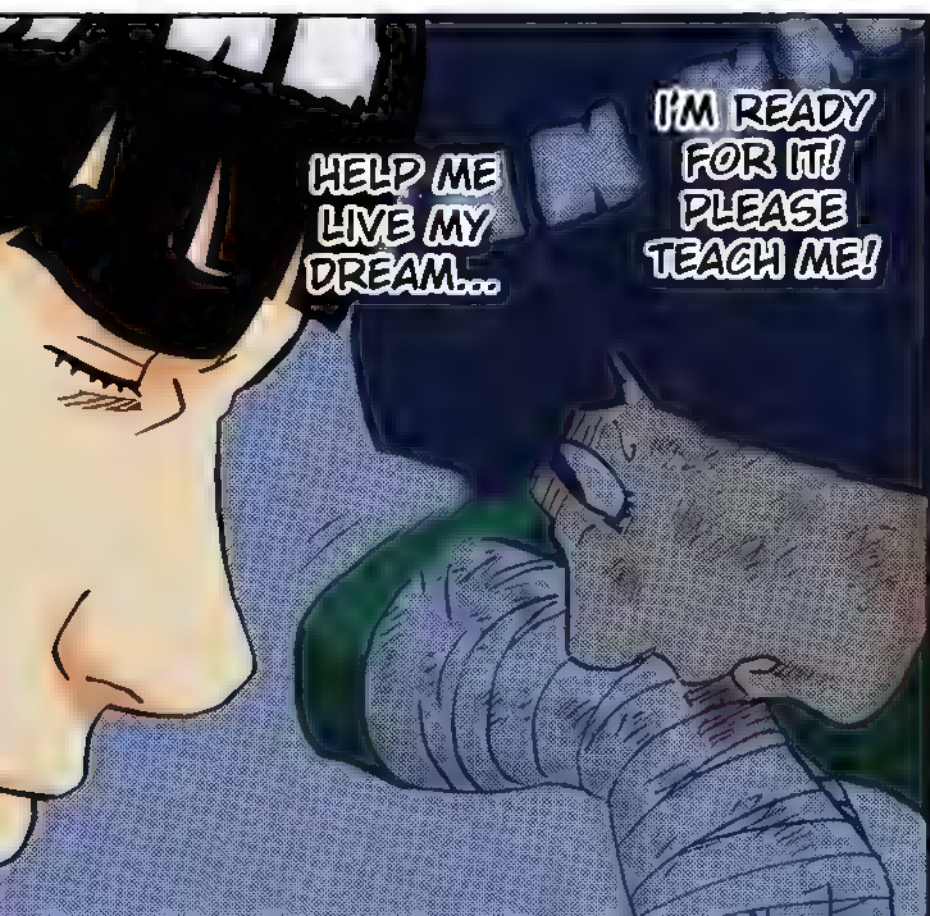
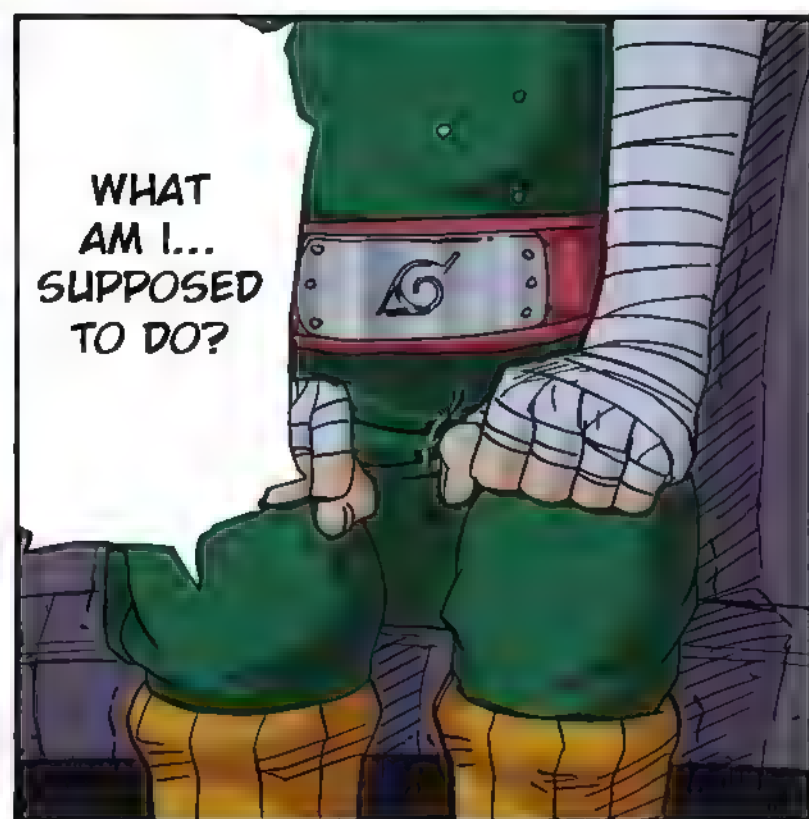
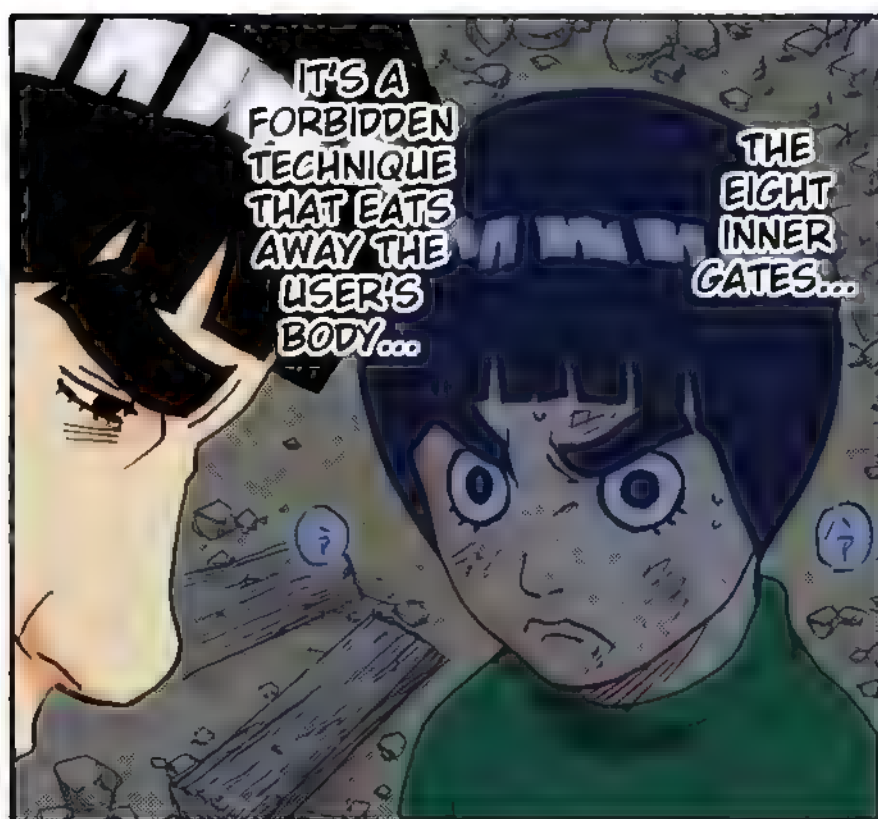
**BUT...
THIS
TIME...**



MASTER
GUY...
TELL
ME!



WILL I
BE ABLE TO
BE LIKE YOU,
MASTER
GUY?





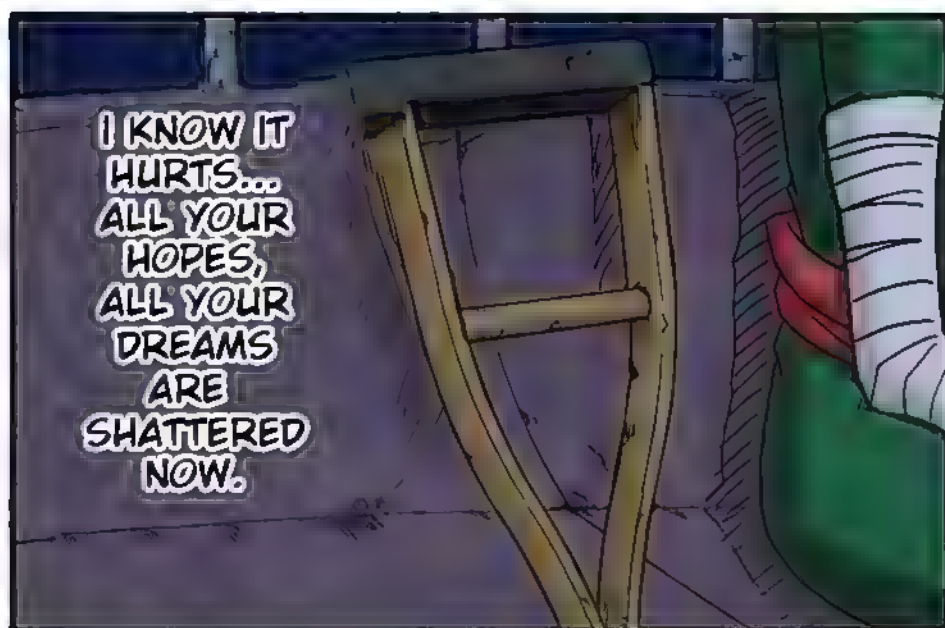
SNIFF...

SNIFF...



THAT'S
ALL HE'S
HAD.

HE
WANTED
TO BECOME
A NINJA
USING ONLY
TAIJUTSU...



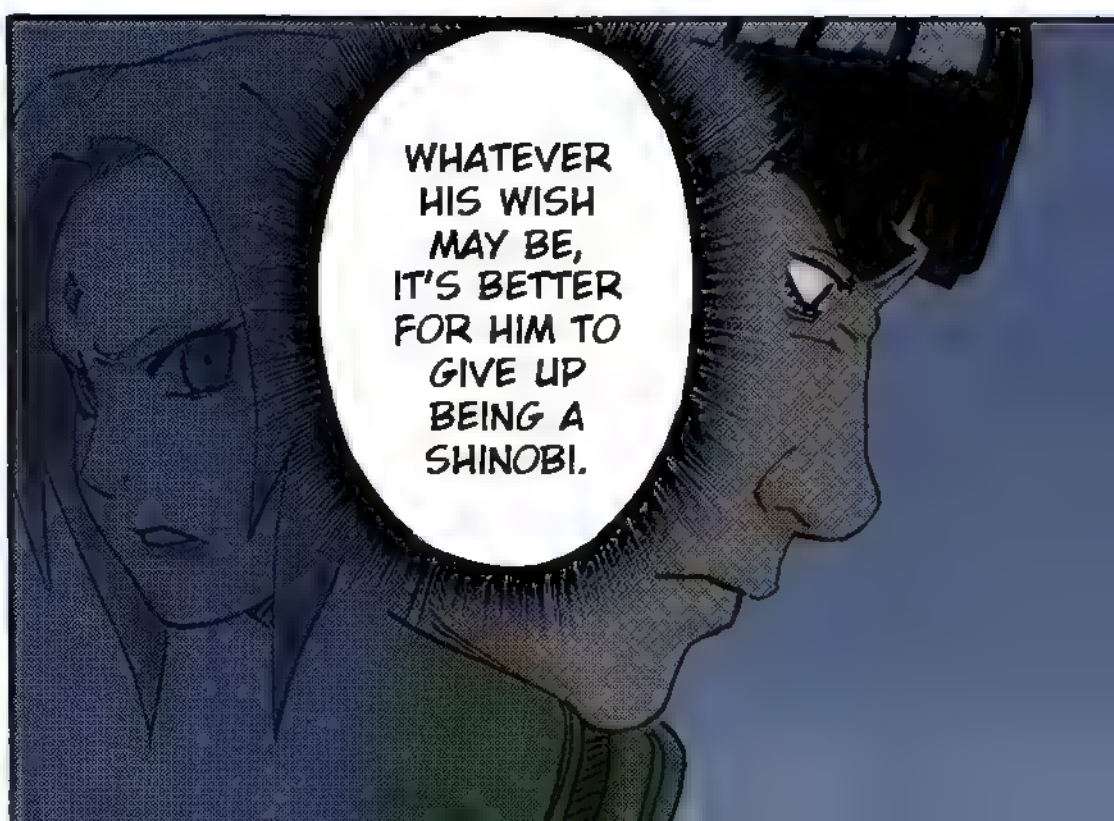
I KNOW IT
HURTS...
ALL YOUR
HOPES,
ALL YOUR
DREAMS
ARE
SHATTERED
NOW.



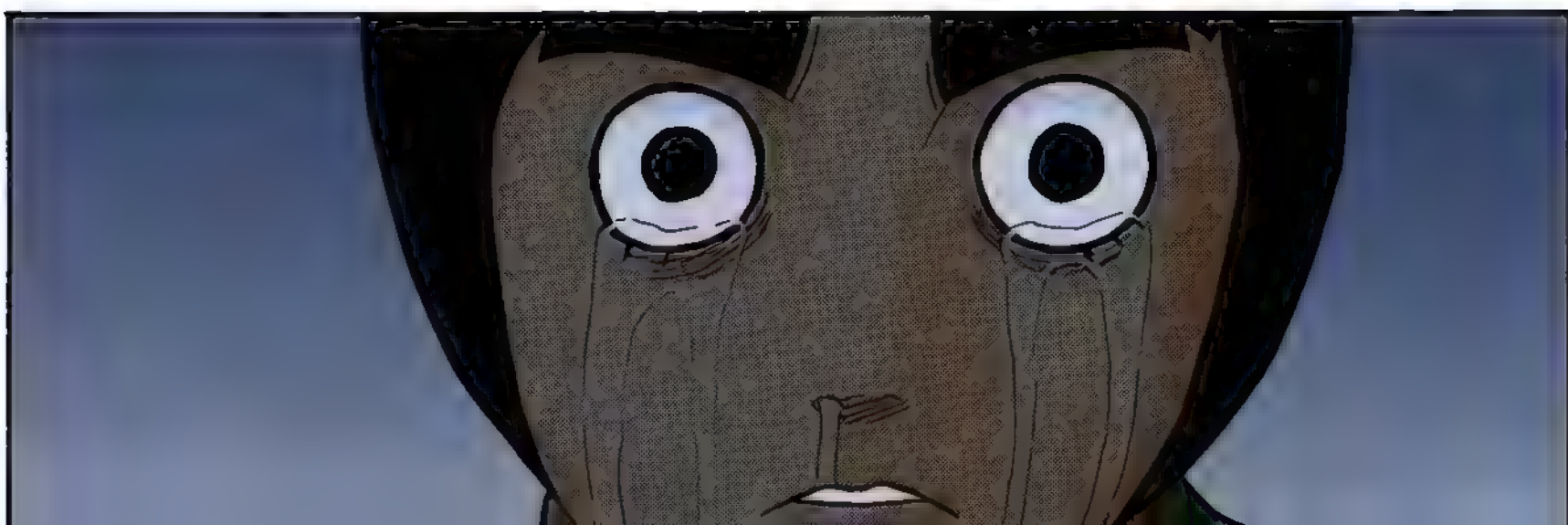
IT'S MY
ONLY
GOAL.

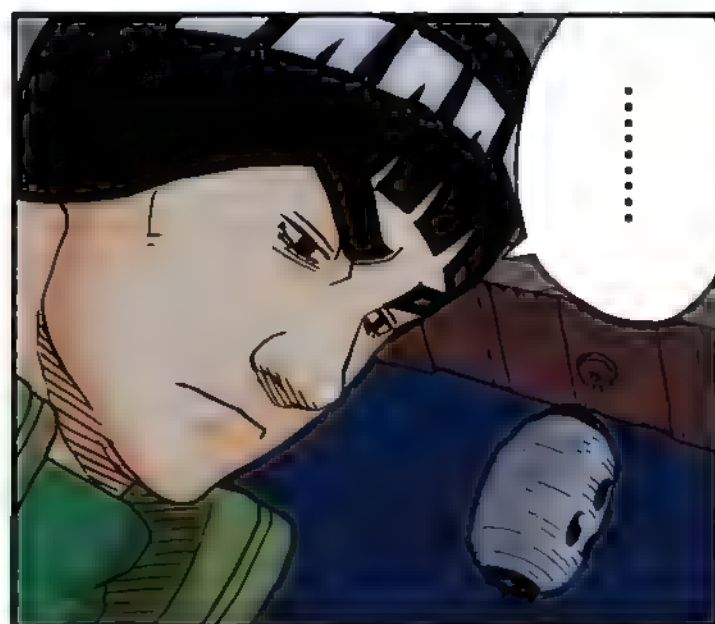
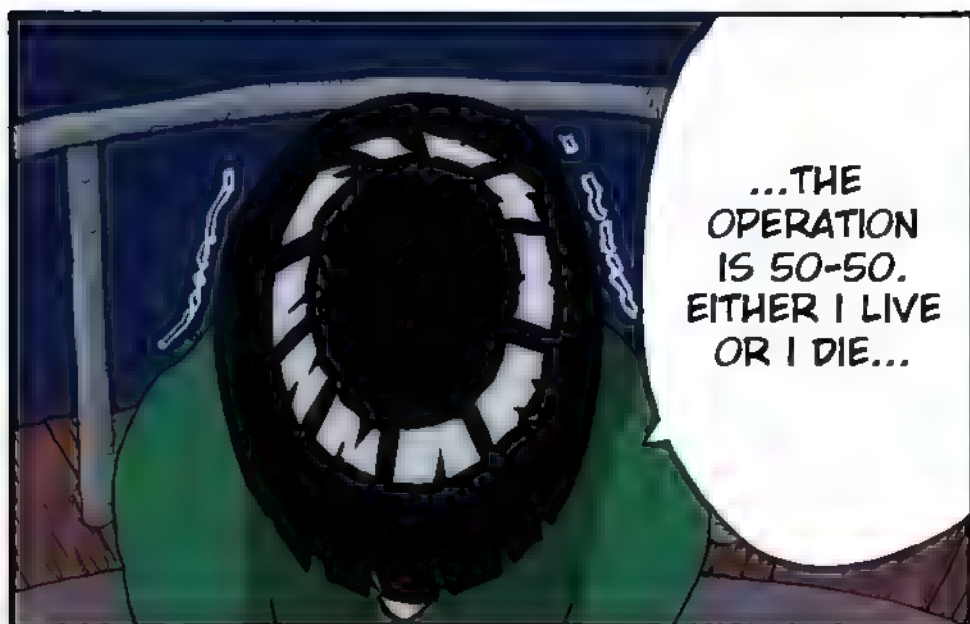
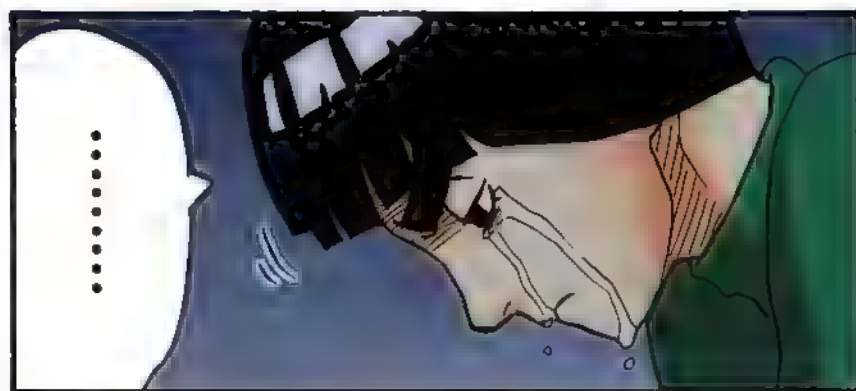


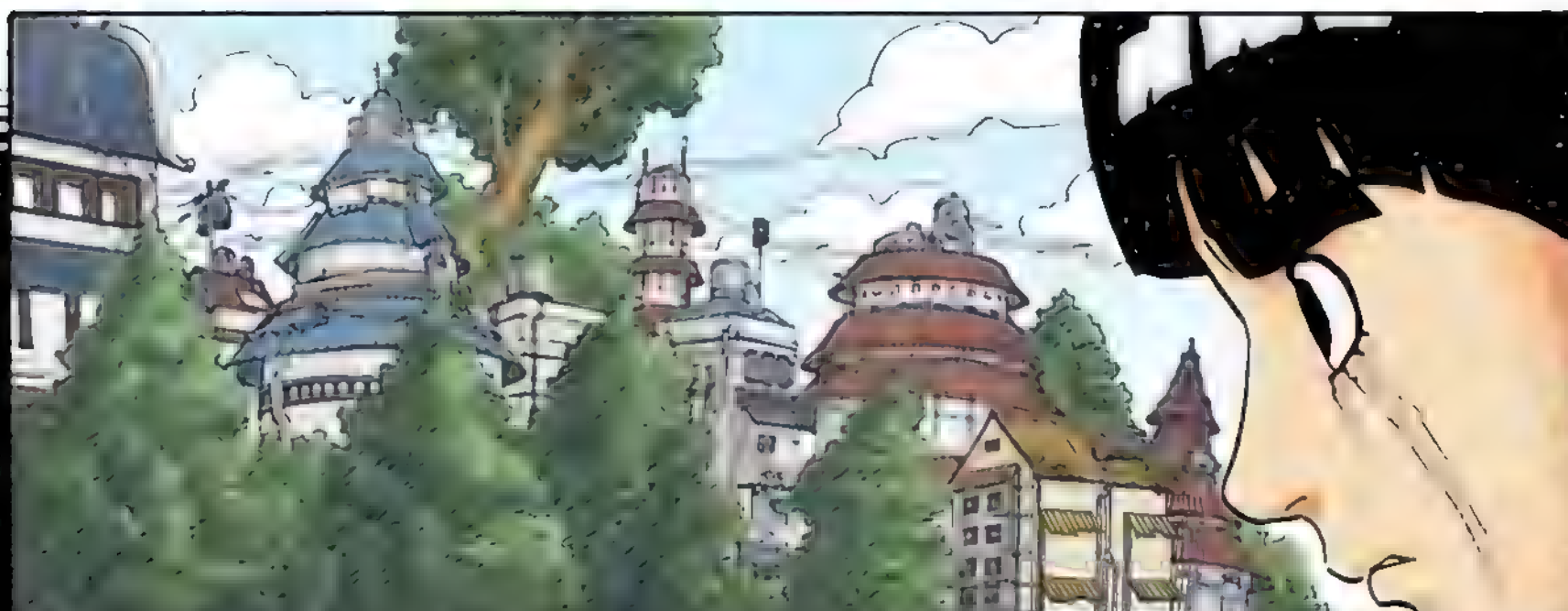
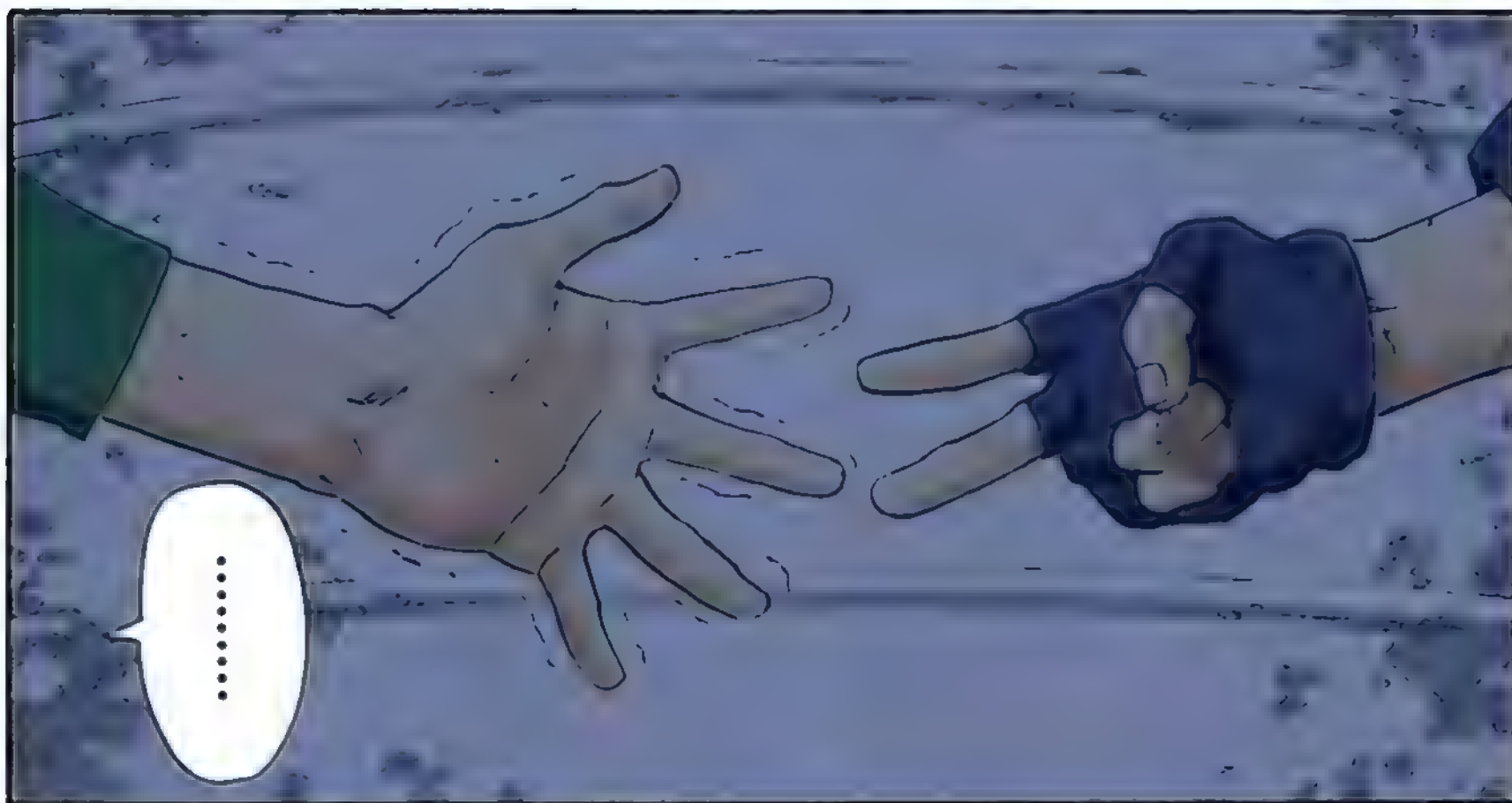
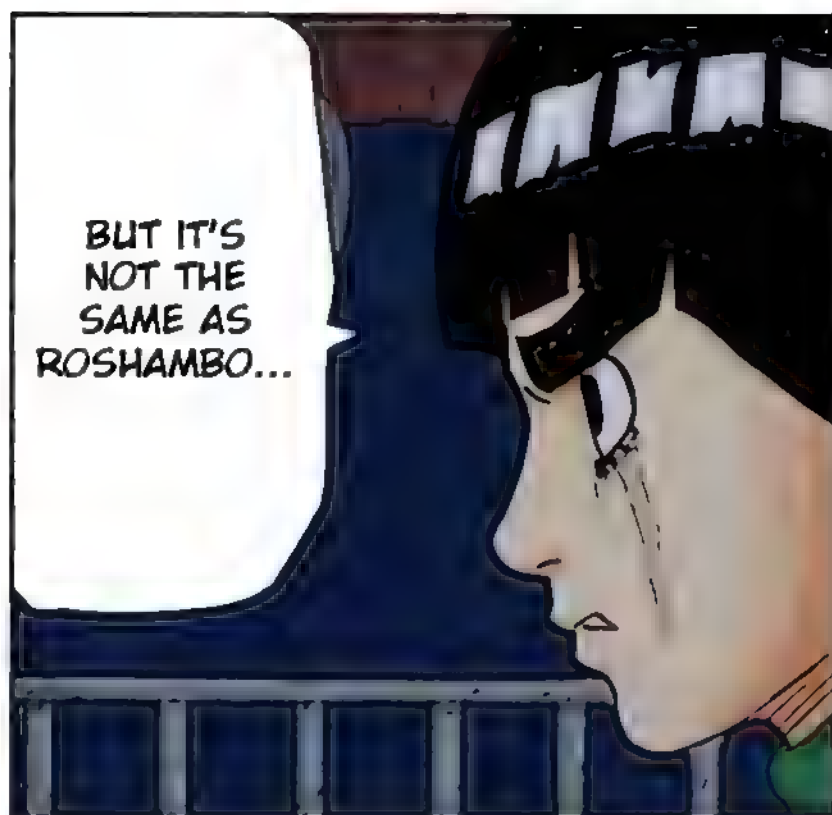
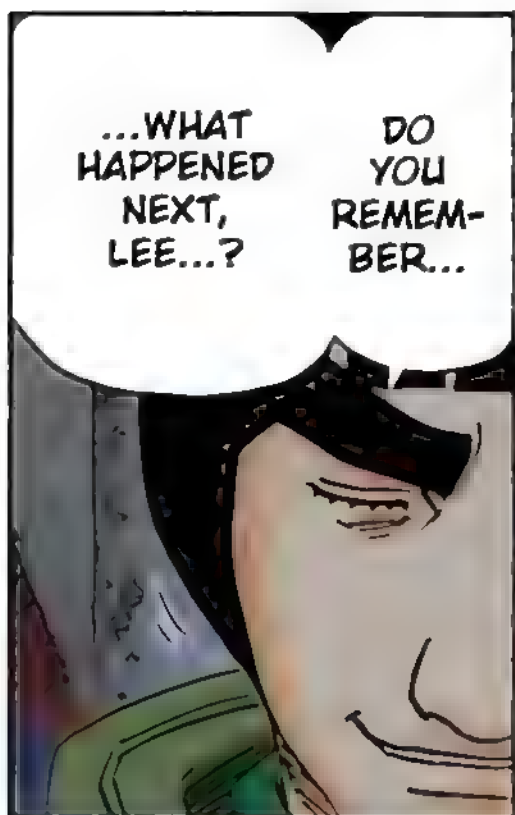
LEE...



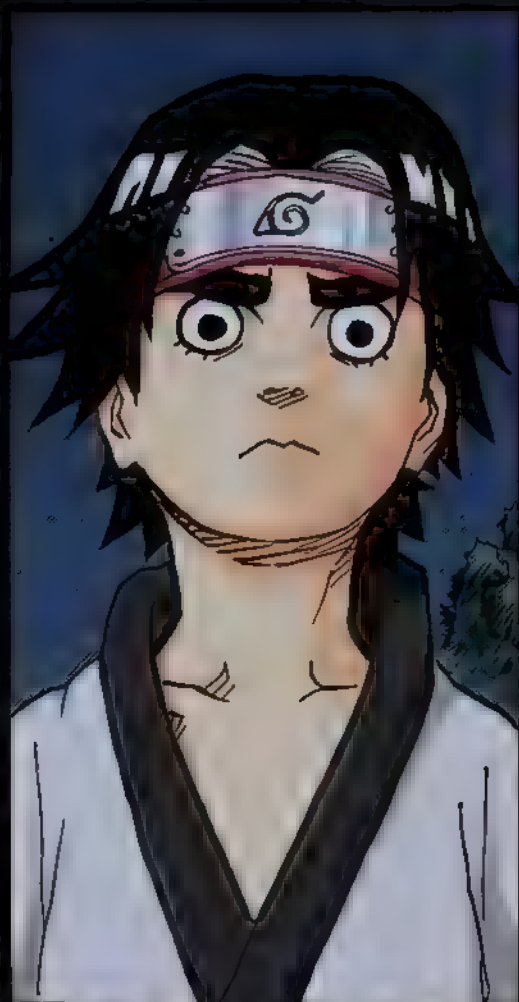
WHATEVER
HIS WISH
MAY BE,
IT'S BETTER
FOR HIM TO
GIVE UP
BEING A
SHINOBI.















LISTEN!

THE KEY TO
THIS RULE IS
TO CREATE A
HURDLE YOU MUST
OVERCOME TO
SUCCESSFULLY
TACKLE A NEW
TASK.



!?



UH HUH,
UH HUH...

SO YOU JUMP
THE HURDLE
TO MAKE IT
EASIER TO
ACHIEVE
YOUR NEXT
GOAL.

ONE, YOU'LL
PROBABLY WIN
YOUR NEXT
ROSHAMBO
BATTLE.



FOR EXAMPLE...
INSTEAD OF
THINKING YOU
JUST HAVE TO DO
500 LAPS IF I LOSE
AT ROSHAMBO...

THINK OF IT AS
IF I DO 500 LAPS,
I WILL DEFINITELY
BEAT KAKASHI
THE NEXT TIME.

YOU
STILL GOT
500 LAPS OF
TRAINING IN!
IT'S THE
ULTIMATE
TWO-STEP
PROCESS.



AND TWO,
EVEN IF YOU
DO LOSE
BY SOME
CHANCE...



I WILL
ACCOMPANY
YOU ON YOUR
500 LAPS!
MY SELF-
RULE IS...

ALL RIGHT!
I JUST
HAVE ONE
LAST
HURDLE
TO OVER-
COME...



THAT'S
BRILLIANT!!



.....

IF
I CAN'T
KEEP UP
WITH
YOU...

...I'LL
JUST
WORK
HARDER!



HEY NOW!
DON'T GET
CARRIED AWAY,
LEE!



I WILL
BECOME A
SPLENDID
NINJA!!

I WANT
TO BE
LIKE YOU!



I
DEDICATE
MY LIFE TO
TRAINING
YOU!!

IF I DEDICATE
MY LIFE TO
TRAINING YOU,
YOU WILL
BECOME A
FINE SHINOBI!!



IF YOU
CAN'T STAY
WITH ME
TILL THE
END...

ALL RIGHT!
THEN I'LL
ADD TO MY
RULE TOO!!



.....



**THAT'S A
PROMISE!!**



YOU
TAUGHT
ME THE
SELF RULE
FOR THE
FIRST TIME
THAT NIGHT...

HEH...
THAT'S
RIGHT.





**IF,
BY A ONE
IN A TRILLION
CHANCE, IT ENDS
IN FAILURE...
I'LL DIE WITH
YOU!!**

**YOU'VE
WORKED HARD.
THE OPERATION
WILL BE A SUCCESS.
YOU HAVE A BRIGHT
FUTURE AHEAD!!**



**...THAT'S A
PROMISE!!**

**FROM THE
MOMENT I
MET YOU,
MY NINJA WAY
HAS BEEN
TO MAKE YOU
A SPLENDID
NINJA.**

